

# AUGUSTA HISTORICAL BULLETIN



AUGUSTA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 21

SPRING 1985

NUMBER 1

# AUGUSTA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY—1983-1985

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# AUGUSTA HISTORICAL BULLETIN

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Copies of this issue to all members

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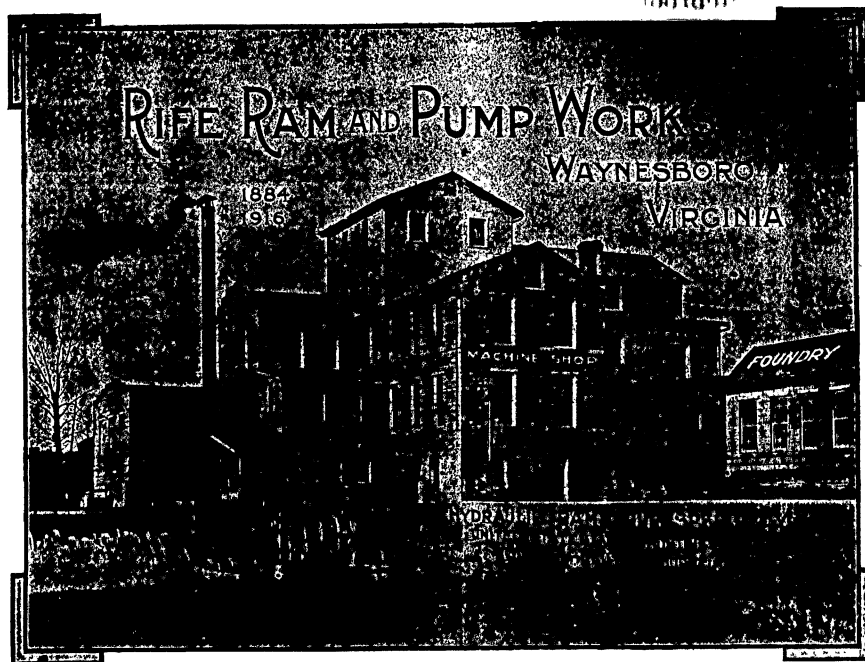
In Memoriam

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A purpose of the Augusta County Historical Society is to publish *Augusta Historical Bulletin* to be sent without charge to all members. Single issues are available at \$4.00 per copy.

The membership of the society is composed of annual and life members who pay the following dues:

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## RIFE HYDRAULIC RAMWORKS

By

Curtis L. Bowman, Sr.\*

On February 26, 1935, The *Waynesboro News-Virginian* published a "greater Waynesboro" edition recalling many aspects of our early history. One headline read: "BOOM IN WAYNESBORO ATTRIBUTED BY MANY TO FOUNDING OF BASIC CITY."

Claudius Crozet finished the four tunnels through the Blue Ridge about 1858, and the C & O rail line today remains mostly unchanged. Several of the tunnels have been by-passed, though, and more recently a new one was drilled through Afton Mountain.

The Shenandoah Valley Railroad, later to become the Shenandoah Division of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, ran along the east side of the Valley from Hagerstown to Roanoke. Waynesboro Junction, or Iron Cross, as it sometimes was called, was at the intersection of the two rail lines. Trains often paused there to allow passengers to replenish food and refreshments. In 1888-89 the town east of the river was chartered as Basic City. It was reported that the purchase price of the town land, including Lithia Spring, (where the DuPont Nylon Plant now stands), was 25 thousand dollars.

History tells us that from their very beginnings the railroads brought progress as they moved into new territories. The Shenandoah Valley Railroad was no exception. The eastern part of the Valley: Front Royal, Luray, Stanley, Shenandoah, Elkton, Shendun, now Grottoes, Basic City and Buena Vista each underwent a "boom." Land deals flourished and new "business" opportunities arose daily, although there was speculation about the ethics of some of the participants. One of the early land developers was the first Mayor of Basic City, by the name of Bowman, so I don't think I'll pursue that any further.

The *Shendun News* of April 23, 1891 reported that foundations had been laid for the Basic City Opera House, and several carloads of machinery for the Basic City Match Factory were enroute from Lebanon, Pennsylvania. Operation was scheduled to begin two or three weeks after delivery.

\*Presented at Fall Meeting of the Society, 1984.

Even Waynesboro did not escape the boom. Ten lots exchanged hands on one Wednesday, and the previous week's real estate sales were reported to be \$65 thousand. A Chestnut Avenue lot sold with a 50% markup over the previous price 90 days earlier.

With all of the wheeling and dealing along the railroad, however, the community of Reed's Chapel and its railroad station at Stuart's Draft were not mentioned. Apparently their "boom" was to be delayed until the present century.

Regardless of the boom and its effects, either good or bad, the town of Waynesboro had several solid industries, most of which dated back to post-Civil War days. Keep in mind that Waynesboro was a small town. The late Frank White, one of two brothers who operated men's and ladies' apparel stores for many years, stated that when he came to Waynesboro in 1882 the population was 440. Unndoubtedly, then as now, there were those who worked in town, but lived in the County.

The Waynesboro Stove Works (later the W. J. Loth Stove Co.) was in the river bottom along South river, fronting on Arch Avenue. Lambert Brothers Lumber and Millwork later became Lambert Manufacturing Co. Alexander Brothers, a little further west, made church furniture and caskets. The Waynesboro Creamery was on Mulberry Street (now Broad). Waynesboro Flour Mills which became Gardner Milling Co., were also near the river and the grain elevator was adjacent. Harlow Coal Company and Ellison Hay Compress were both near the C & O tracks, along what later became Ohio Street.

While not an Industry as such, Fishburne School was already in existence. Mrs. John Ellis relates that her grandfather lost a leg at Chancellorsville, not far from the site where Jackson was mortally wounded. Grandfather was a carpenter by trade, and upon his recovery he whittled a wooden leg with a notch in the bottom end, so it would fit over the rungs of a ladder. He resumed his trade as a carpenter and worked on the original Fishburne buildings.

In the above list I have not included the Rife Ram and Pump Works, because it was located in Augusta County, just south of the Waynesboro corporate limits. Waynesboro was a bedroom community for several of the people who worked for Mr. Rife.

We don't know much about the origins of William Alexander Rife. Some said that he was raised as an orphan in the

western part of Augusta County. He was related to the Dunlaps who lived in the Churchville/Lone Fountain area, and in his will he left shares of stock to a half-brother, Robert S. Smith, whose address was not specified. Members of Mr. Rife's family described him as having a "fertile mind," and as a young man it was said he frequently asked the question: "Why can't water run uphill?" Apparently he asked the question, and then answered it, and the Rife Hydraulic Ram was the result.

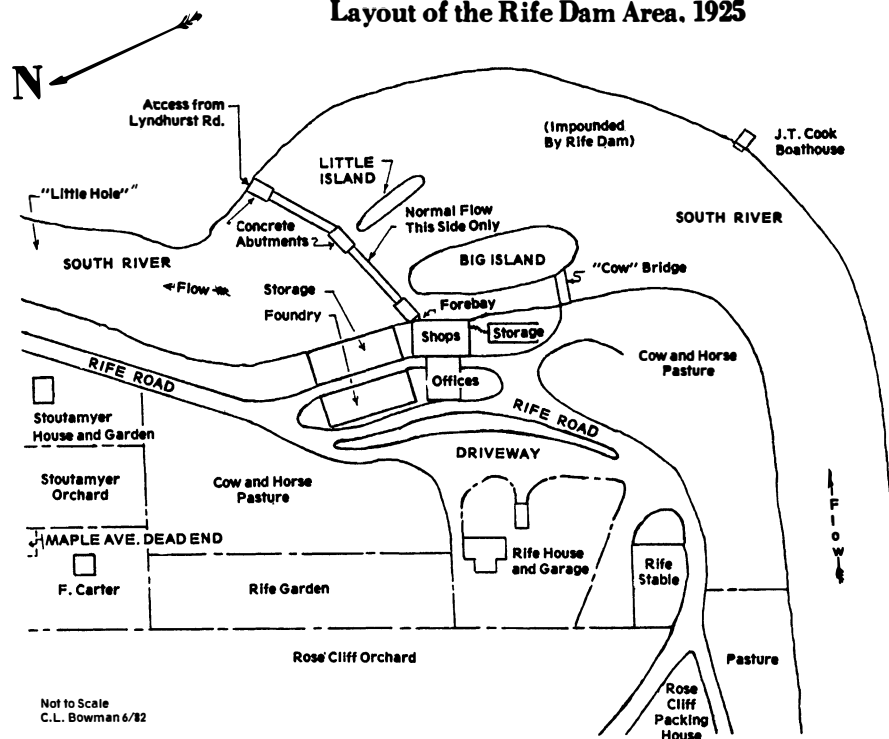
Mr. Rife married Emma Schoppert of Waynesboro. She was the daughter of Captain Schoppert, a survivor of the Civil War. Some said that his war wounds were of a questionable nature. The Schopperts lived on Chestnut Avenue in the frame/shingle house just back of the present Hicks Service Station, bounded by 15th Street and Rife Road along South River.

Mr. Rife and his father-in-law founded the Rife-Schoppert Company, and according to available literature they were producing rams as early as 1884. Based on the Captain's ownership of the Chestnut Avenue property, it is probable that he also owned the land along the river, south of the iron Chestnut Avenue bridge, where the ram works was constructed. Perhaps it was Mr. Rife's concept of the ram and the Captain's land and other wherewithal which made the venture possible. I do not know when the name was changed to Rife Ram and Pump Works, but it would seem likely that the original company survived until after the Captain's death.

An early brochure refers to the "old type" ram and also to "other makes" of ram, so it is likely that Mr. Rife had competition or that he was in a joint venture with others. One of these was the Rife Hydraulic Engine Manufacturing Company. A 1927 letter mentions four shares of stock in that company which were owned by Mr. Rife, but which were thought to have been destroyed by fire in 1907. The H. T. Olsen Company of New York City was agent for the Engine Company for 20 years until 1926, when Olsen became agent for the new Rife Ram and Pump Works formed after Mr. Rife's death. Olsen in 1927 stated that the stock was almost worthless and that Engine Company assets consisted of "good will, trade mark, some ram patterns and little else." The executor of the Rife estate thought it would be a good idea to retain the stock in order to have insight into future Engine Co. activities, if any, but I believe the shares were liquidated. At one time 10¢ on the dollar was mentioned as a suitable price.



Layout of the Rife Dam Area. 1925



The original Rife dam was constructed of stone and logs and diverted water directly into the forebay where the three wooden water wheels were located. These were placed flat against the floor of the forebay, so that the shafts projected upwards. This would be like taking the old vertical mill wheel so familiar to most of us and turning it on its side. Flowing water impinged upon the "cups" of the wheel, causing it to turn. Gears on the upper end of the shaft, above water, transmitted power to pulleys and belts which drove the various pieces of nearby equipment.

A photograph taken about 1895 shows the original frame shop building beside the river. This building was destroyed by fire in 1898. Old correspondence mentioned another fire in 1907, and apparently it was after this fire that cement blocks were used in the reconstruction. The detached wooden foundry building which housed the cupola and in which the molten metal was poured, escaped on both occasions. I would have expected it to have been much more vulnerable to fire damage.

The wooden dam washed out in the early 1900s and was replaced by the present concrete and stone structure in 1907. For once, the frowned-on practice of scratching name and date in the freshly poured concrete really paid off.

Prior to the 1924 consolidation with Basic City, Rife Dam and Pump Works pumped water from Baker Spring to the tall black iron standpipe on Maple hill, where the Main Street United Methodist Parsonage stands. Waynesboro later joined Basic City in using water from Lithia Spring. The Ram Works pumps were in a room adjacent to the water wheels, a necessary move because the pumps were belt-driven.

Rife Ram and Pump Works also generated electricity for the town of Waynesboro before the advent of Virginia Public Service, which later became VEPCO. A nearly undated photograph shows W. A. Rife, James A. Crone and Louis Appleman standing behind a belt-driven generator. Basic City had its own water powered generating plant on South River.

Another undated picture postcard shows the boiler room and stack adjacent to the forebay. There were two large coal-fired boilers in the room. These most likely were used for stand-by power for generator and water pumps when the dam was drained for repairs or in case of other emergencies. I don't know whether the boilers were installed before or after the dam washed out — whether this was foresight or hindsight.

1884—1924

# RIFE'S NEW MODEL HYDRAULIC RAM

World's Latest and Best!

WATER PUMPS WATER

Where You Want It, From Your

SPRING, FLOWING-WELL OR BROOK

No Running Expenses

THOUSANDS WORKING ALL OVER THE WORLD,  
WHY NOT HAVE ONE WORKING FOR YOU?

Saves Labor—Saves Time—Saves Money

Your Money's Worth or  
Your Money Back

I am the inventor and have been manufacturing the Rife Ram for 37 years, and know what I am talking to you about, when I tell you that this new model is the world's latest and best, and if it don't give you money, I'll give you your money back.

To

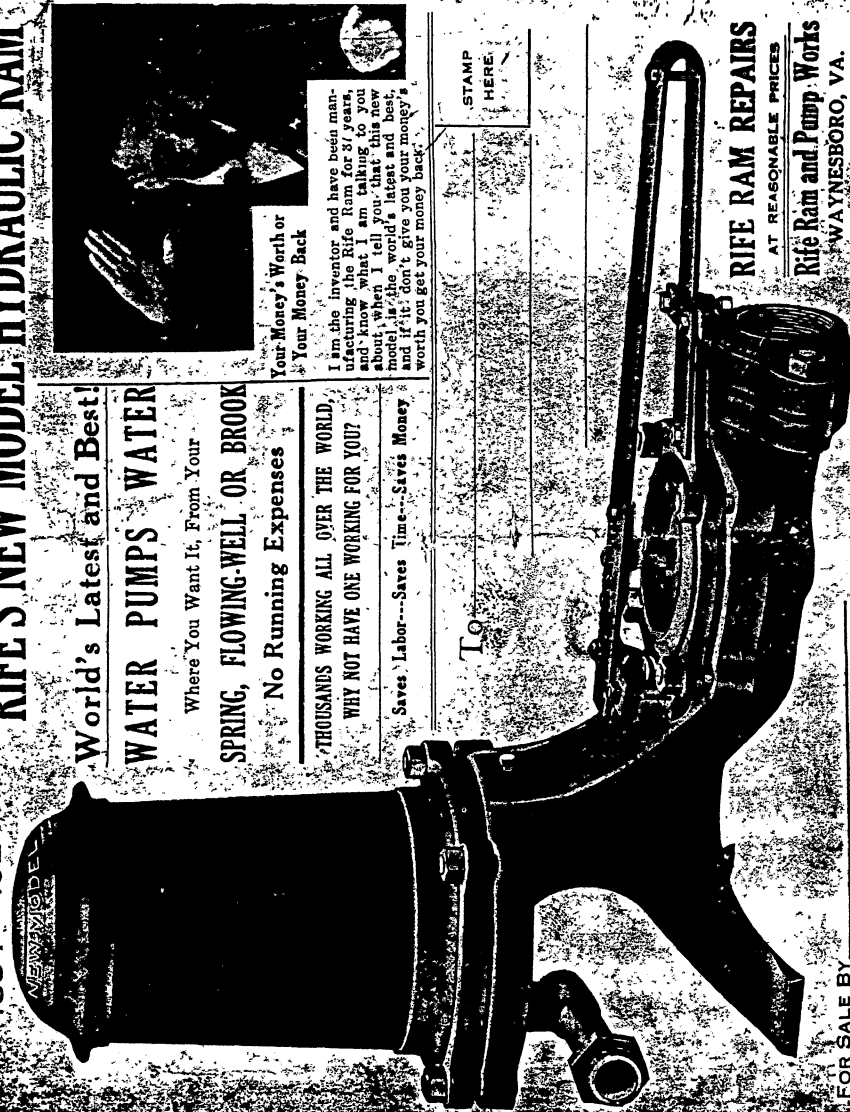
STAMP  
HERE

RIFE RAM REPAIRS

AT REASONABLE PRICES

Rife Ram and Pump Works  
WAYNESBORO, VA.

FOR SALE BY

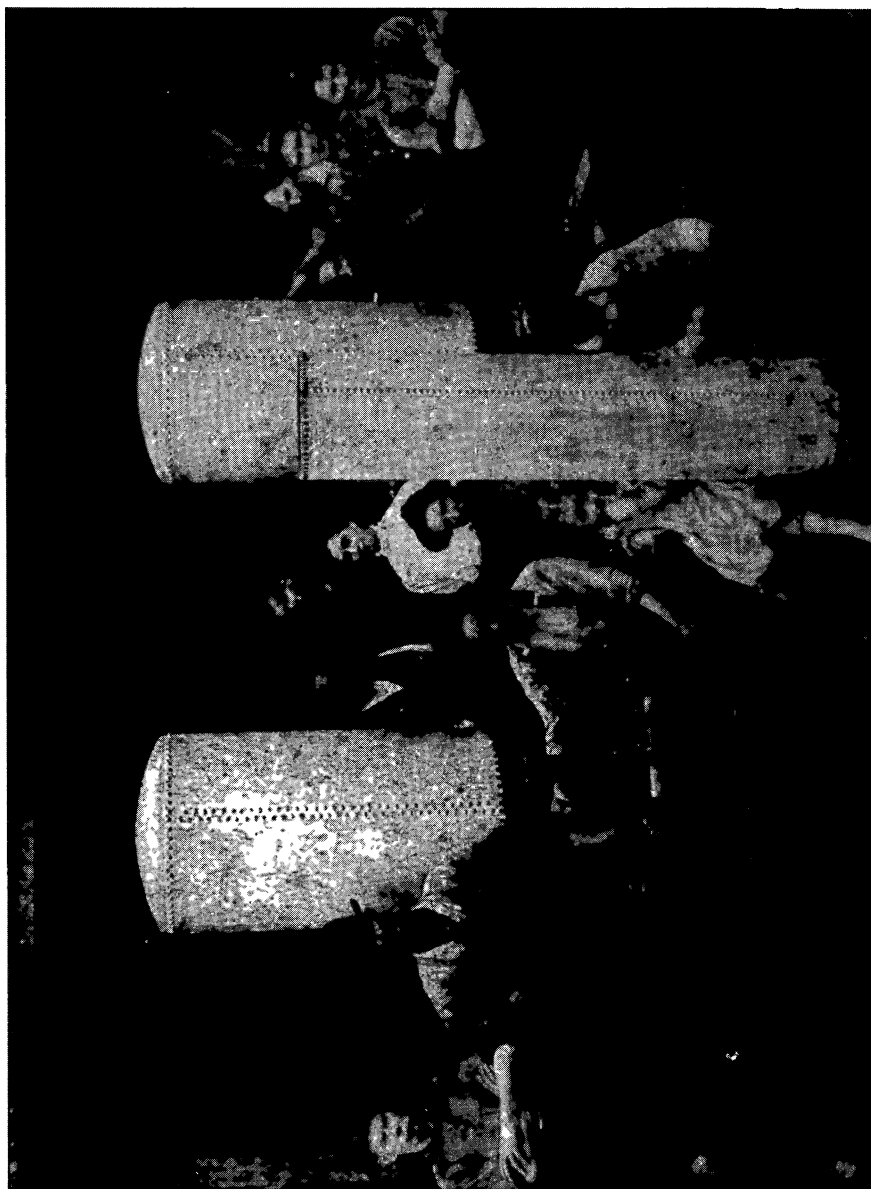


An early undated photograph of the Rife Ram and Pump Works crew shows eleven persons, including Mr. Rife and his secretary. I don't recall that Mr. Rife ever did much manual labor (except maybe shouting at the swimmers at the opposite end of the dam) so it was up to the nine men to carry out the entire operation. They were responsible for sand molding, pouring iron, machining, assembly, painting the air chamber a bright red, crating and shipping the finished product. Versatile Floyd Clark doubled as patternmaker, painter and assemblyman. Everyone shared in pouring the iron, which took place once per week, usually on Saturday afternoon.

Wages were about 10¢ per hour for a semi-skilled "hand." Machinist and patternmaker made more, as did the working foreman. This was for a ten hour day, six days per week. This doesn't seem like much money, but remember that in 1891 bacon was 9¢ per pound, eggs were 12¢ a dozen and milk was 20¢ a gallon. Good lumber was 10 to 15 dollars a thousand board feet and brick sold for \$7 per thousand. I do not know the selling price for the earlier rams, but in 1920s, prices ranged from \$40 to \$600, depending on model and type. Just eyeballing those figures would indicate that the profit margin was small, and volume must have been fairly large to support the operation.

There were no fringe benefits or pensions as we know them, yet Mr. Rife was good to his employees by the standards which existed at that time. Handyman Frank Carter frequently drove our family to the C & O train station on North Wayne Avenue, and on occasion would drive the horse/surrey combination to Staunton to meet the B. & O. train there. My father often borrowed the draft horses to plow his rather extensive garden, or to pick up the ever-present barrel of flour from the mill. The Rife copper kettle was available for apple butter cooking whenever we needed it.

There was little offered in the way of recreational activities. By the time the 60 hour week was over there was scant time for sports and the like, unless as a spectator. Iron was poured on Saturday afternoon, and as soon as the task was completed the employees were free to take off. Under the best conditions, this meant getting off about an hour or so early. I recall that one member of the work force would hurry home, get cleaned up and with his wife drive to town as quickly as possible. By carefully waiting, he would jockey his car into position at the corner of Wayne and Main at the door of the old First National Bank



building and diagonally across the street from Fishburne's Corner. In this manner they could watch the Saturday night "passing parade," as sooner or later they would see a large segment of Waynesboro and County population pass by. The Corner was the hub of activities, with stores staying open until 9 p.m. or later.

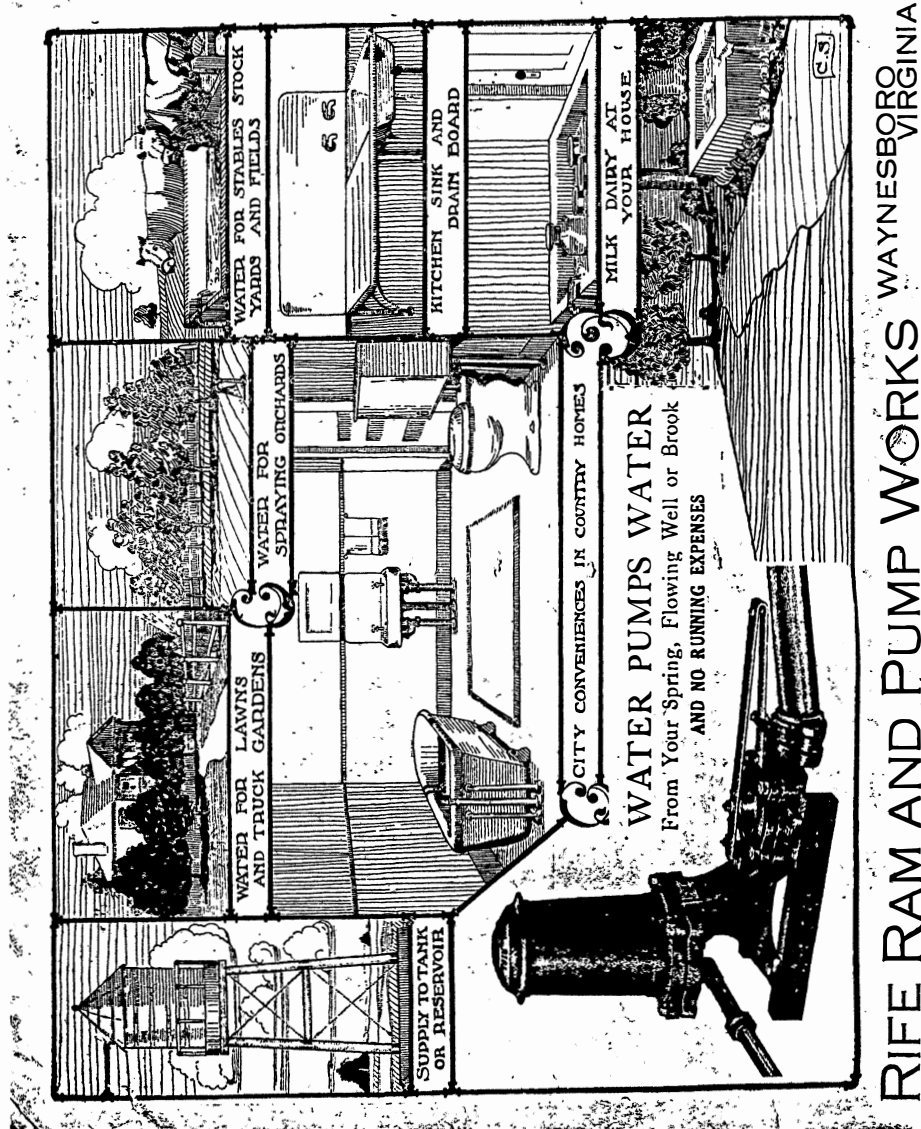
Although the Rifes lived in Augusta County, he in particular took a great interest in Waynesboro, its people and its progress. It is said that he supplied the iron gates for Riverview Cemetery and donated to the purchase of land for Waynesboro's public library at 11th and Walnut. He helped form the telephone company which had its switchboard in the Fishburne Building. One source refers to this as the Appleman/Fishburne Telephone Company. Louis Appleman was in the photograph at the Pump Works showing the generator, but I do not know the exact extent of their business association. Mr. Rife donated to the purchase of First Presbyterian property (\$50, I believe) and was active in working for good schools and roads. It was said that his portrait was hung in the original high school on Pine Avenue, and later was placed in the cornerstone of the present high school building. I could not confirm this report.

I do not know Mr. Rife's political leanings. As an ardent prohibitionist, he would have been against the Waynesboro-Basic City consolidation which came to a vote in 1923. Basic City was "wide open," with five saloons, while Waynesboro had none. But then Basic City had two full time policemen, vs one part time for Waynesboro. Presumably, "demon rum" was responsible for the greater number of arrests on the east side of the river. Officer Shumate in Waynesboro also carried a hammer in addition to his billy club so that he could nail loose planks in the wooden boardwalks as he made his rounds.

Mrs. Rife was a homebody, and left the running of the plant to her husband and household management to Miss Mary Hyman, while she did the sewing. Before ice was commercially available, the Rifes had an ice house for summer storage of the ice blocks which were cut from the impounded waters of the dam in the winter months. When she heard of any sickness, she would send ice to comfort the ailing ones.

Mr. Rife had collected numerous automobiles of 1910-1915 vintage. He never drove them, but kept them stored in a large building, apparently designed for the purpose. I believe that had his health not failed he would have considered using the facili-





ties of the Rife Ram and Pump Works for automobile production. Who knows, Waynesboro might have rivaled Detroit.

The last will and testament of William Alexander Rife was dated June 15, 1925, and he died the following year. The will was probated in Augusta County on November 10, 1926 under the signature of long time clerk Harry Burnett. There were those who said that Mr. Rife was incompetent when the will was made, and it is true that he had been in declining health prior to his death. The typed document, duly witnessed, submitted for probate appears to be coherent, concise and not at all indicative of incompetence at the time of writing. He named James A. Collins as executor; Mrs. Collins was a Dunlap, and was a cousin of Mr. Rife.

There were 230 shares of Rife Ram and Pump Works stock, having a nominal value of \$100 per share. The Rife home overlooking the river (where Ram Works condominiums are now being constructed) was included as a part of the Company assets. It was said that Mr. Rife had wanted the Schoppert home on Chestnut Avenue to be included in the Company assets as well, but Mrs. Rife refused to do so.

Family members (adopted son and daughter, cousins) and his half-brother Robert Smith received a total of 140 shares of stock. Housekeeper Mary Hyman received \$1000 cash, and the remainder of the estate after burial expenses was left to his widow. The entire estate was valued at slightly less than \$36 thousand.

None of the Rife heirs had enough stock, cash or business acumen to want to take over the Ram business. As a result, Mr. Collins, J. H. Furr, my father and J. A. Dunlap, a relative and Blackstone businessman, purchased stock from some of the heirs and joined with those who did not wish to sell, to form a stock company, a new Rife Ram and Pump Works organization. Mr. Collins was president, Mr. Furr was treasurer, and the Major, (my dad) was a working manager. Most of the employees who had worked for Mr. Rife remained with the new company, as jobs were not plentiful, even that far before the depression.

Although the stock was valued by Mr. Rife in his will at \$100 per share, the price apparently fluctuated according to supply and demand. A memo of agreement signed by the Major and Mrs. Rife shows that he purchased 25 shares for \$200 each in March 1927. Later, in July of 1928, J. A. Dunlap purchased five shares from Mr. Rife's daughter at \$150 per share, how-

ever I do not believe that this was the entire extent of his holdings. I found no record of purchases by Mr. Collins or Mr. Furr, but suspect that their stock purchases were proportional. Inasmuch as the Rife home was carried as a business asset, Mrs. Rife moved to her father's old home on Chestnut and Mr. Collins moved with his family into the big house on the hill.

At first, the ram business seemed to do well and the non-working stockholders appeared to be satisfied with the return on investment. With the coming of the depression years and with approaching rural electrification, however, the demand for rams decreased. Although the foundry was equipped with patterns to do custom casting, that volume of business was not sufficient to support the venture in face of the dwindling ram sales. Even money derived from the bathing beach at the dam was plowed back into the treasury.

It was said that General Electric bought the W. J. Loth Stove Co. to get the "Hotpoint" electric range. Some time later, R. H. Clemmer who had worked for the Loth enterprise prior to the sale, bought back all of the real estate and patterns from GE, but "Hotpoint" was not included in the deal. I do not know his reasons for not wanting to operate a foundry in the old Loth location between Arch Avenue and the river. Perhaps the flood plain and deteriorating buildings were a factor. New buildings and a new cupola, plus other necessary equipment would be quite expensive.

Regardless, the downturn of the ram business and the depression resulted in stockholder dissatisfaction, and Rife Ram and Pump Works was in trouble. J. H. Furr encouraged the stampede of minority stockholders and this presented Mr. Clemmer with the opportunity to gain a controlling interest. From this, the Rife-Loth Corporation was formed, to be followed later with Virginia Metalcrafters. The phenomenal growth of those industries will be discussed by our next speaker.

Just a couple of notes of interest before closing:

A 1937 photograph shows 62 Rife-Loth employees, vs the 11 or so who staffed the earlier Rife Ram and Pump Works. Four of these 62 had worked for the RRPW prior to the takeover. Mr. Furr continued to work for the new corporation.

A. Brown Rife, the adopted son, was a long time patient in a State institution. A 1935 letter from J. Albert Clark to Mrs. Rife, who was legal committee for her adopted son, reports a 3% dividend of \$60 on the 20 shares which Mr. Rife willed to

Brown. The letterhead indicated that the Rife Ram and Pump Works was still functioning, but as a division of Rife-Loth, and Mr. Clark signed the letter for the parent company as Treasurer.

A 1939 bond executed by Jessie Wescott, Brown's sister, listed her as his guardian. Apparently the change in committee followed the death of Mrs. Rife. At that time, Brown was the owner of 15 shares of Rife-Loth stock valued at \$1500.

In closing, I would like to express appreciation to Elsie and W. D. Henderson for their generous assistance. Elsie is Mr. Rife's granddaughter and W. D. is the son of J. W. Henderson, a long time Rife employee. In addition, my brother and sister, Robert E. Bowman and Mrs. Lillian Yerby were most helpful in supplying information for this presentation.

## VIRGINIA METALCRAFTERS\*

by

Charles Salembrier

As suggested by Mr. Bowman's remarks, and as is usually the case when a business is successful, the success of Virginia Metalcrafters and the companies which preceded it has been largely the result of the vision, enthusiasm, and common sense of a few individuals. In 1919, Richard Clemmer (known to many as Captain Dick following his World War I service as a captain of artillery) was employed by the American Wire And Fence Works in New York. Richard was the nephew of Percy Loth who was then the manager of the Loth Stove Company. Due to illness, Percy's family asked Richard to come to Waynesboro to run the Loth Stove Company. This he did, and shortly thereafter recognized a need to move from the "horse & buggy" (as he called it) world of wood stoves into the production of the modern electric stove. He hired Mr. Fred Cuff, an electrical engineer from Canada who developed the Loth Company's first electric stove. It was called the Hotpoint Range, a tradename still familiar today.

Sales of this range were so successful that the Loth Company came to the attention of General Electric which, like many modern-day conglomerates, felt the best way to deal with the success of a competitor was to buy the competitor. General Electric was able to purchase the entire business in 1930 and shortly thereafter installed the son of a high GE official in the senior management position. The company's efforts were then largely diverted to the manufacture of water heaters, percolators and electric irons in addition to its electric stoves. Unfortunately, it took no more than two years for this inexperienced youngster to run the company into the ground, and GE closed the plant entirely in 1932.

Having recently built a new home in Waynesboro with his wife of 12 years, the former Mary Morris Hoge, Captain Dick found the prospect of leaving Waynesboro very unappealing and immediately sought a business opportunity that would enable him to continue in the Shenandoah Valley. Within 6 months he had secured a position with the Rife Ram & Pump Works and

began to work from this position to acquire that company. Towards this end, he undertook what became a somewhat protracted search for financing. A degree of urgency arose from two places: another buyer was very much in the picture and, by late 1934, Mrs. Clemmer, whose gardens today are the source of great civic pride in Waynesboro, announced to her husband that she had just finished putting in a rock garden and that if he kept her in Waynesboro long enough to see that garden bloom, he had better be prepared to keep her there thereafter. (She apparently was willing to walk away from her garden during the cold gray winter months, but knew she would never leave it when it was in bloom.)

The citizens of Waynesboro who have enjoyed Mrs. Clemmer's gardens for so many years can thank a loan officer at Planters Bank for making the money available for Mr. Clemmer to buy the Rife Pump Works. Captain Dick had absolutely no success in obtaining financing until Planters agreed to help him, and when Mr. Clemmer asked why Planters was making the loan after so many other banks had denied it, the loan officer responded, "You simply look like an honest man."

With the foundry capacity of the Rife Works now available, Mr. Clemmer merged the Loth Stove Business with the production of the hydraulic ram pumps and formed the Rife-Loth Corporation. He had been able to buy the stove patterns back from GE, but the real estate was held by GE until later and, as suggested by Mr. Bowman, the Rife Ram Factory, with more modern equipment, offered many more opportunities.

At this point, my story follows the stove business and the development of the decorative line which eventually became Virginia Metalcrafters. However, the Rife-Loth Corp., and subsequently Virginia Metalcrafters, continued to manufacture the Rife Ram Pump until 1955 when the business was sold to the Rife Hydraulic Engine Manufacturing Company in Millburn, New Jersey. Virginia Metalcrafters continued to manufacture castings for the Millburn, New Jersey firm until 1965. That business was sold to new owners in July of this year (1984) and the Rife Hydraulic Engine Mfg. Co. now operates in Norristown, Pennsylvania. The new owners tell me that their sales are currently divided equally between domestic and foreign customers and they expect to double their sales in the next 5 years. They look to the Ram Pump as playing an important part

\*Presented at the Spring Meeting of the Society, 1984.

in supplying water to non-electrified areas in many of the developing third world nations.

The Rife-Loth Corporation continued to manufacture wood and coal burning stoves, however, it was to be the decorative pieces which would form the basis for the company's future growth. The Clemmer family loved to travel, and to visit historical landmarks. During a visit to Lee's home they came across miniature brass cooking implements painted black. From this, Mr. Clemmer had the idea of producing tiny skillets out of iron with the Rife-Loth name cast into the bottom. He intended to use these small pieces as promotional giveaways at the many trade shows that he attended. By chance, the manager of the Princess Anne Hotel in Fredericksburg saw one of these small skillets and asked Mr. Clemmer to make him two dozen with the Princess Anne name engraved on the back. This order was accepted at a price of 10¢ a piece. Two weeks later, they received a reorder for twelve dozen pieces, and the rest is history. While this tiny souvenir business grew, Mrs. Clemmer prevailed upon her husband to duplicate a number of brass kitchen pieces that she had found at local auctions. In a way, it is poetic justice that the original kitchen pieces that were copied came from Korea. Today, one of the principle problems of the decorative brass industry is the copying of our brass pieces by Far Eastern manufacturers.

In late 1938, melting equipment was installed for brass and other non-ferrous metals and Mr. Clemmer began to slowly develop his gift line. World War II interrupted brass production. However, it began again in 1946 and grew steadily. Throughout the war years and though all the time they were associated with the company, the Clemmers were tireless in pursuing new products to expand the gift line. Each visit to an antique store or museum precipitated a new adventure. When they found a beautiful hand carved horse in Baltimore, they immediately sought out the artist. Thus, they were introduced to Calvin Roy Kinstler, and they retained him to produce more original works. The Clemmers traveled to Calumet Farms where they received permission and encouragement to have Mr. Kinstler produce a carving of the great race horse, Citation. This, and a number of other animal forms carved by Mr. Kinstler, are still in the Virginia Metalcrafters line.

As their sales of brass gift items grew, the Clemmers came to the attention of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation where

the popularity of brass reproduction pieces had exceeded the Museum's limited production capacity. In the late 1930s, Mr. Max Rieg, owner of "The Sign of the Golden Ball" on Duke of Gloucester Street in Colonial Williamsburg, and a master craftsman in his own right, had begun producing individual brass reproductions by hand. Shortly after the war, he asked the Rife-Loth Corporation to make castings which he then finished himself in Williamsburg. In 1951, with the popularity of the Williamsburg brass pieces continuing to increase, the Rife-Loth Corporation entered into a licensing agreement with Colonial Williamsburg to produce brass and iron reproductions. This agreement is carried on today and represents the cornerstone of Virginia Metalcrafters' reproduction efforts.

In later years Virginia Metalcrafters would sign licensing agreements with the Historic Newport Foundation, Old Sturbridge Village, Old Salem, and the Thomas Jefferson Memorial at Monticello. Just this year we have entered into a licensing agreement with Historic Charleston, and discussions are now underway relative to a similar agreement with the National Trust For Historic Preservation.

While their gift business prospered, the Clemmers began to look for a name under which to market their decorative pieces, the Rife-Loth Corporation seeming to them somewhat inappropriate. One of their gift customers, a friend who operated a shop on the Skyline Drive, suggested the name Virginia Metalcrafters, and this name was subsequently adopted to identify the decorative line. When Mr. Charles Eckman purchased the company from the Clemmers, he changed the name from the Rife-Loth Corporation to Virginia Metalcrafters, Incorporated.

Like Mr. Clemmer, Charles Eckman (another former army captain) was a man with vision and an unlimited capacity for work. Prior to purchasing the company from Mr. Clemmer, Mr. Eckman founded a wholesale food business, Richmond Restaurant Service, in Richmond in 1949. He was very successful in this, but became bored and began doing consulting work in addition to running his company. His consulting work brought him in touch with the advertising agency which was working for The Rife-Loth Corporation and he heard of Mr. Clemmer's desire to sell his company. He was able to sell his food distribution business without difficulty and bought the assets of the Rife-Loth corporation in April of 1953. Mr. Eckman immediately realized the potential of the gift business on the one hand, and of the

manufacturing capabilities of his new company on the other. In 1955 he bought from the E. T. Caldwell Company the patterns and drawings for Colonial Williamsburg chandeliers, and in 1956 acquired the Harvin Company of Baltimore with its patterns for candlesticks and fireplace equipment. In that same year, 1956, he bought the Riteway Stove Company of Harrisonburg and essentially replaced the Loth Stove products with those bearing the Riteway name. The Harvin Company continued to operate in Baltimore and the Riteway Company in Harrisonburg until 1959 when Mr. Eckman consolidated the operations of both companies in Waynesboro. At that time, he moved the brass operations from the River Road factory to the company's present location on Main Street.

Wishing to further utilize the manufacturing capacities of the new Main Street location and in order to counter-balance the seasonal sales of stoves, Mr. Eckman bought the Panzer Tractor Company in 1960. The Pennsylvania Lawn Mower Company was purchased in 1961 as a logical addition to the tractor business. Both products were manufactured with considerable success until 1969 when greatly increased competition from larger manufacturers such as International Harvester and Ford, plus stringent new government regulations regarding the safety of lawn mowers suggested it was time to sell these businesses.

In 1966 the company acquired the framed picture business and picture frame moulding business from the Paul B. Victorius Company of Charlottesville and operated this business in Charlottesville for three years before bringing this operation to the Waynesboro plant.

In 1971 the iron foundry structure was dismantled at the River Road location and reassembled adjacent to the brass foundry on Main Street. Mr. Eckman retired from his active participation in the company's day-to-day activities in 1981 but remains active on the Board of Directors.

Today, Virginia Metalcrafters is the largest manufacturer of high quality sand cast decorative pieces in the United States and enjoys the reputation of manufacturing a product that is unexcelled in its quality and beauty. Employing only a minimum of labor saving techniques, the Virginia Metalcrafters brass product is cast in individually handmade sand molds with subsequent shaping and polishing operations performed largely by hand. The product line includes chandeliers, sconces, lamps, candlesticks, trivets, desk accessories, fireplace equipment, and

yard and patio pieces such as doorstops and sundials. Recently, the company acquired the rights to produce brass rim locks under a license with Colonial Williamsburg.

In addition to brass, the Victorius Division hand paints re-strike engravings and frames them with a broad selection of picture frame styles manufactured at our location. The wood-working department produces a selection of mahogany accent pieces, many associated with the Williamsburg Reproduction Program, which are unsurpassed in the beauty of their hand finishes. The frame department continues to manufacture picture frame mouldings which are sold throughout the country, while the Gray Iron Foundry supplies commercial castings for many local industries as well as cast iron gift pieces. Although the company no longer markets coal and wood burning stoves, the iron foundry does produce castings for local stove manufacturers who produce products based upon the original Loth and Riteway designs. Virginia Metalcrafters' products will continue to be sand cast and hand finished just as was done in the 18th century. They can be seen in the White House, they have been used by heads of our government as gifts to foreign dignitaries, and they continue to make hundreds of thousands of homes throughout the world just a little more beautiful.

In closing, I would like to thank Mrs. Richard Clemmer and Mr. Charles Eckman for searching their memories on my behalf. Also, my thanks to Mr. Hunter Earhart, who joined the Rife-Loth Corporation in 1946 and has been iron foundry superintendent for Virginia Metalcrafters since 1954.

## A TOUR IN COLONIAL AMERICA

A Traveller's First Impressions of Virginia and Beyond

By

Elizabeth Moody

A young English gentleman of good education who first landed on Virginia's shores in 1772, wrote an account of his extensive travels in the American colonies. He has left us a glimpse of the primitive, unspoiled land, so much of which was then unexplored and unknown though the white man had arrived a century and a half before. J. F. D. Smyth, the author of "A Tour of the United States of America" (published under this title in London, by subscription, a few years after the end of the American Revolution),\* seemed possessed of a great curiosity, wonder and enthusiasm for the land itself. "Indeed the whole appearance of this country, and face of nature, is strikingly novel and charming to an European, especially to a Briton," he wrote. "...The air, the sky, the water, the land, and the inhabitants, being two-thirds black, are objects entirely different from all that he has been accustomed to see before."

Although Smyth did acquire some land in Virginia, and later a farm in Maryland, he apparently left his holdings for lengthy intervals in the hands of overseers while he took long trips through Virginia, the Carolinas and parts of the deep South, then across the Alleghanies into the new settlements of Kentucky. In spite of the hardships and dangers of travel in that day, he seemed avid for more knowledge about the topography, the expanse and natural resources of the sparsely settled continent. Since the book has rather limited distribution — in some academic and historical collections — it seems worthwhile to set forth here a few of his first impressions of Virginia and beyond, concentrating on the land rather than the people.

The Englishman writes of first coming ashore at the charmingly situated town of Norfolk, then of sailing up the James past "the beautiful seats" of Shirley and Westover. He visited Williamsburg and Richmond, and was entertained at *Tuckahoe*

\* Reprinted by Arno Press, N.Y.C. in 1968, in two vols. as part of a series: Eyewitness Accounts of the American Revolution. In 1853, The Va. Historical Register and Literary Companion published a few extracts from Smyth's book; at that date it was believed that only four copies were in this country — two had been in the library of John Randolph of Roanoke.

by Thomas Mann Randolph. But his more detailed descriptions begin with his tour inland by horseback to Petersburg and south, and later to Augusta County and the Shenandoah Valley. He wrote of his first impression of America as being one continual immense forest, and as he rode along a good road out of Williamsburg, of his growing feeling of confinement and oppressiveness "due to the shady gloom of deep woods where hoary trees with inter-twining vines kept out the light." There was no free air and no perspective since the view was always bounded by surrounding woods.

Smyth was "much amazed" by an incessant noise and clamor which proceeded from great numbers of frogs and insects in the trees — and especially the bullfrogs, "some as large as a man's foot" in the swamps and water along the road: "They emitted a most tremendous roar, like the bellowing of bulls, and seemed to be speaking words in grating and dissonant tones — *hogshead tobacco, knee-deep, ankle-deep; deeper and deeper; pian-ki-tank!* They surprise a man exceedingly as he will hear their hoarse clamor just by him and sometimes all around him, yet he cannot discover from whence it proceeds, they being all covered in water and just raising their mouth only a little above the surface when they roar out; then instantly draw it under again." Other sounds from birds and animals in the woods, which could be heard but not seen, gave the newcomer the whole effect of "a land of enchantments."

In the Tidewater area, Smyth found the forest broken at intervals by plantations, established some one to five miles apart, where tobacco and Indian corn seemed to be flourishing, as well as orchards of peaches and apples. On traveling inland and leaving the flat Tidewater, he remarks on the terrain becoming more hilly and rugged, overgrown with thickets and underbrush. Throughout much of the mountainous "back country" the traveller found his way by following blazes on the trees along mere trails. How unlike the cultivated, orderly countryside of England! America was a land of violent contrasts. The sky was bright, clear and serene, without the haziness the Englishman was accustomed to; then the rain would come suddenly, falling in torrents, the clouds rent by rapid lightning flashes and contending peals of thunder. (A number of early visitors to America have commented on the sudden, violent thunderstorms). To Smyth the weather in Virginia seemed mostly dry, intensely hot in summer but piercing cold in winter.



When the traveller bedded down in his blanket at night, with his feet toward a fire he built alongside the road, he would see thousands of lights "like bright burning candles — being large insects called fireflies, flitting through the air in every direction." He tells of waking up one morning to see a large black snake sunning himself a few feet away. "He was jet black with a copper colored belly, and at least seven feet long, with very fine, sparkling eyes. He did me no harm for I did not disturb him, but when I moved and rustled the leaves, he made off with great speed."

According to this tourist, the inns or *ordinaries* in America were "generally wretched" in their accommodations, excepting at the opulent planters' houses where everything was plentiful "though served in the plainest style." People making trips by wagon would usually carry their own provisions and often sleep in the woods on dry leaves under a tree, wherever the night overtook them. But a man on horseback "was obliged to trust to Providence for accommodations and subsistence, both of which are not always to be met with."

It was the common practice of inland farmers to turn their cattle and hogs loose in the woods to forage. They kept young animals penned up, and gave salt at regular intervals to the livestock "to promote growth and to allure them home at the end of the day." A good deal of the stock would become wild in time. Often when a man wanted to catch a colt in the forest to tame and train for service, he found it difficult to accomplish. In that day the farmers had what they called "a right" in the woods, by which each was entitled to a certain proportion of the livestock running wild. This right was transferred from party to party in the same manner as fixed property. In the new settlements, a brand (usually an earmark) was the only way to ascertain whose property it was — each brand being officially recorded at the county seat.

Like a number of other early visitors to Virginia, Smyth commented on the superior breed of horses found here. Virginians of all ranks were especially fond of horses, he wrote, and even the poor man had his saddle horse — "for in this country nobody walks on foot the smallest distance, except when hunting; indeed a man will frequently go five miles to catch a horse, to ride only one mile afterwards.... The gentlemen of Virginia spare no pains, trouble or expense in importing the best stock and improving the excellence of the breed by proper and judicious

crossing." He found every village of any size in Virginia had its own race course, the largest being in Williamsburg where heavy bets were laid.

Although Smyth gives us no description of an overall view of the Shenandoah Valley,\* he does write of a magnificent vista he beheld from a summit in the Alleghanies: After mounting and dismounting frequently, leading his horse in many places, he tells of reaching the top of a mountain ridge. What a view met the eye from such a height! Blue-green forests "extending on a flat plain, seeming without end, but at length swelling into stupendous mountains interspersed with rocks and precipices." He saw that several of the great ranges were broken through by wide rivers which spread into the distance — "some waters flowing down deep chasms in raging torrents and foaming falls, others gliding in awful, majestic silence along the deep valleys between the mountains.... While the mind is filled with astonishment, all the senses are gratified, with flowery shrubs spread over the land, some with odorous perfume, and some a delight to taste and refreshment for the traveller."

While Smyth sat spellbound, admiring the wondrous view, his woodsman guide went off into the forest and returned with a wild turkey for supper. The Englishman wrote of seeing great flocks of wild turkeys whose meat he enjoyed for the first time in Virginia. He writes of the crystal clear flowing streams, full of fish. Game of all kinds was abundant. He saw deer, elk, buffalo, bears, foxes, raccoons and a variety of squirrels. He heard the howls of wolves and mountain panthers. In the back country he first heard the word "licks" to describe those special places which draw the wild animals.

Once during arduous travel alone through the mountains toward the new settlements in Kentucky, Smyth lost his way and wandered for hours. Suddenly he came upon several men sitting on the ground in an open glade: "Such they were I had never seen before, painted black and red and all armed with firelocks and tomahawks." At first he thought they were hunters, white men, who would frequently stay in the mountains for several weeks at a time without returning home. Advancing joyfully at seeing human beings again, the Englishman suddenly froze in his tracks. These were red men — the native Americans! "The

\*For Smyth's account of a visit to Staunton and involvement in the Battle of Pt. Pleasant, see BULLETIN, Vol. 12, No. 1, 1976.

instant they perceived me, one of them fell prostrate on the ground, and another jumped to his feet, put his hands to his mouth and sent forth a most dreadful yell that made the whole woods resound." But when Smyth began to walk slowly toward them, one came forward to meet him. "He spoke some words which I did not understand, and after pausing a while held forth his hand toward me. I shook him heartily by the hand." When one of the men who seemed to be the leader, pointed to Smyth's hatband which held a stone that sparkled in the sun, the white man immediately made him a present of it. They invited him to sit down and partake of their food: venison and nuts, all mixed together with wild honey. He found it a delicious repast and after spending the night in their camp, they set him on his course again next morning.\*

A few miles further on he came upon a stockade fort where the settlers of the area were gathered to defend themselves against the dreaded savages, said to be on the warpath. When Smyth told of his friendly contact with the Indians, they at first refused to believe him. Finally some of the men ventured forth to reconnoitre. It had been a false alarm spread by panicky settlers at the first sight of an Indian party. They had not waited to see whether it was friendly or hostile, knowing too well the cruelty of vengeful warriors.

Smyth expressed great admiration for the backwoodsman whom he first met in the wilds of Augusta County. He gives a vivid description of these skilled, self reliant men. "They dressed very much like the Indians, wearing fringed hunting shirts of brown or white, many dyed red or yellow." The woodsman wore a broad belt, much decorated, in which he always carried a tomahawk, an instrument which served not only as a weapon but as a tool, being a hatchet on one side and a hammer on the other. Along with his "rifle-barrelled firelock," he carried over his shoulder a shot bag, or powder-horn, often carved with decorative figures and devices. He usually wore a "flapped hat" to protect him from sun and weather. His leggings, or *Indian boots*, were made of coarse woolen cloth wrapped round and tied with leather thongs, or laced on the outside halfway up the

thigh. He made his own moccasins of buck or elk skin; they were close fitting, soft and pliant. "Thus habited and accoutered, with his rifle upon his shoulder or in his hand, a back-woodsman is completely equipped for visiting, courtship, travel, hunting or war." All in all, this new breed of American cut a splendid figure and was at perfect ease in any company. "He could be set in the midst of a boundless forest, a thousand miles from an inhabitant, and he is by no means at a loss, nor in the smallest degree dismayed."

\* \* \* \* \*

When the American colonies took up arms against Great Britain and declared their independence, J.F.D. Smyth remained a staunch and outspoken Loyalist. He repulsed several attempts to drive him off his land, but in October 1775 he had to flee his farm in Maryland. He was soon captured and imprisoned, but later escaped, and after many hardships and hair-raising adventures was able to join the British forces. He held a commission in the King's army and was promoted to Captain, serving in campaigns in New York and New Jersey. When he published his book in 1784, Smyth did not see much future for the American Republic, believing it would come under French domination without old England's aid and guidance. But he never lost his wonder and admiration for "the extraordinary land" itself.

\*Smyth was interested in learning more about the American Indians and admired some of their qualities; his book contains a good deal of comment on their culture and he lists the various Indian nations then known to be in North America.



# PUBLIC EDUCATION IN AUGUSTA COUNTY, 1870-1940

## PART I

By Ann McCleary

The years between 1870 and 1940, from the establishment of the free public school system through the early consolidation movement, proved to be a critical period in the development of rural education in Virginia. During this period, rural schools were transformed in character from "local, semi-autonomous institutions which existed largely outside of formal governmental structures to ones which incorporated and reflected a new bureaucratic conception of government."<sup>1</sup> This transformation affected all aspects of the rural school experience, from the selection of teachers and design of the curriculum to the construction and location of school buildings. Progressive-era reformers, viewing the network of one-and two-room schools across the state, were instrumental in introducing many reforms to modernize Virginia's schools to help them keep pace with urban and northern schools. Virginia incorporated many of these ideas into its educational programs in the early decades of the twentieth century, most notably the consolidation of smaller schools, the development of high schools, the improvement and diversification of the curriculum, and the construction of more modern, better-equipped school buildings.

This article traces this critical period in the development of rural education in Augusta County. Since Augusta County has remained rural through the twentieth century, a large number of school buildings from the period survives. These school buildings express within a concrete form the actual local response to state-wide educational policies, bridging the gap between the proposed reforms and the local reality of schooling. Taken together, these schools illustrate the evolution of school building forms, from the locally planned and built one- and two-room schools to the larger consolidated schools based on plans and specifications furnished by the State Department of Education. These educational resources are historically and architecturally significant in documenting the social and cultural history of Augusta County.

The Underwood Constitution of 1869 mandated that Virginia establish a system of free public schools to open for the 1870-1

academic school year. Augusta County responded immediately to this demand and "took hold of the schools with a good deal of energy."<sup>2</sup> Despite local opposition, Augusta County had established 88 schools the first year. By 1872, the number had increased to 137 and continued to fluctuate around this figure for the remainder of the first decade. According to the first Annual Report, Augusta County had progressed quite rapidly in establishing free schools because the patrons continued to pay part of the teachers' salaries augmenting the state's salaries. "By this combination of private with public means," the Report claimed, "schools...are likely to be so multiplied as to furnish a full supply for the wants of the people."<sup>3</sup>

In the early years, Augusta County rented quarters in churches, meeting halls, and older school buildings. The first Annual Report expressed optimism that the existing private schools could be obtained at "little or no public cost" and converted into public schools.<sup>4</sup> Two years later, the Annual Report stated that many of these old schoolhouses were "repaired and supplied with more comfortable furniture."<sup>5</sup> In 1873 the County began to buy old schools and build new school buildings, and the number of County-owned schools increased dramatically over the following two decades. In 1880 Augusta County spent over \$5,000 on school buildings, the second largest amount spent on this category of any Virginia county. By 1890 the Augusta County School Board owned 164 of its 176 schools, with the total school property valued at over \$80,000.<sup>6</sup>

The majority of Augusta County schoolhouses in the first few decades were one-room buildings. Out of 115 schools in 1871, all but seven contained one room. Ten years later, 136 out of the 150 were still only one room. The first decade witnessed the greatest variety in building materials, with 27 frame, 76 log, and 12 brick schools the second year. Log schoolhouses proved most common across the state in this first decade. By 1880-1 the number of log and brick schools in Augusta County had dropped to 12 and 3, respectively, while the number of frame schools rose to 125. Clearly, the new schools built during the first decade were overwhelmingly of frame construction, replacing the earlier log and brick buildings. By 1885 the one-room frame schoolhouse had become the predominant form through the state and symbolized the new public school system.<sup>7</sup>

Augusta County's one-room schoolhouses follow fairly standard designs similar to those across the State in the late 19th

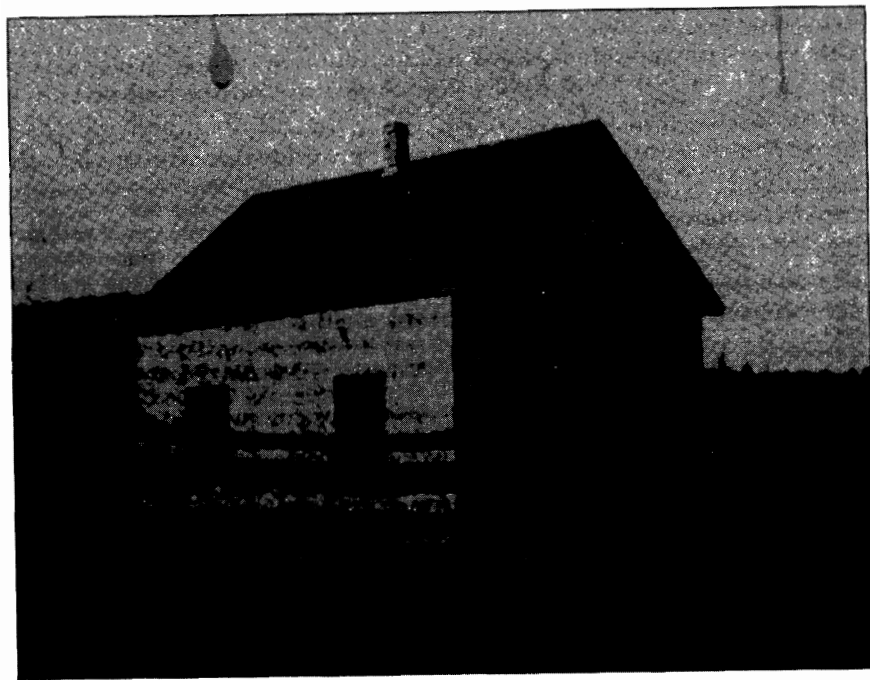


Figure 1. Deerfield Valley one-room schoolhouse, photo courtesy of Richard M. Hamrick, Jr.

century — simple rectangular blocks with gable roofs. (Figure 1). The entrances on post-Civil War schoolhouses generally moved from the longer side walls, found in the private antebellum “field schools,” to the gable end, most commonly used in the Northern states. Some of the County’s earliest surviving schools, including Walker’s Creek, West View, and Sunnyside, had two front entrances. A single entrance, sometimes flanked by windows, proved most common in the extant late 19th and early 20th century examples. Two or three six-over-six or nine-over-nine sash pierced the side walls. As more utilitarian structures, these schools had little applied decoration, except for the occasional use of decorative eaves brackets, as seen at the 1909 Estaline School. Chimney location changed during the 19th century. The only two antebellum examples, the brick Glebe Schoolhouse and the log Walker’s Creek Schoolhouse, have gable end chimneys opposite the entrance gable, and these chimneys contained fireplaces (Figure 2). All the known post-1870 schools had central stove flues which served wood or coal stoves.



Figure 2. Walker’s Creek Schoolhouse near Newport, a log schoolhouse which originally had two front doors. Built before 1870 as a private schoolhouse, it was later integrated into the public school system.

Like the exterior, the interior of these one-room schoolhouses remained quite plain. A 1932 Fire Insurance Survey revealed that wood sheathing, sometimes painted, covered the walls of most of the one-room schools, with the occasional use of plaster above the sheathing. A few had plaster on all the walls. Blackboards or “blacked strips,” painted yearly, stretched across the gable end opposite the door and the adjacent ends of the side walls. The ceilings were also sheathed with wood. Interior plans offered little variation until the early twentieth century, when new state guidelines were introduced. The Estaline Schoolhouse was one of two 1909 schoolhouses built in the Estaline Valley with a narrow cloakroom located off the front door, but this plan is rare in the county and was probably introduced after most one-room schools were built (Figure 3).

Although relatively small in the first year, the number of schools established for black students grew in the following



Figure 3. Wallace's Mill Schoolhouse, built in 1909 in Estaline Valley. This late one-room school contains a small cloakroom off the front door.

decades. The second Annual Report from 1871-2 revealed that black patrons in Augusta County enthusiastically supported the new public schools:

"Though generally poor, they have in many instances shown a liberality of labor and means in building houses and supplementing salaries worthy of imitation by the whites, while the children have sometimes walked from four to five miles in attending school and have progressed satisfactorily in their studies."<sup>8</sup>

In 1870, with a black population of 22% in the County and Staunton combined, only 11% of the County schools were black. However, ten years later, with 26% total black population, the County operated 19% of its schools for black students. The number of black schools peaked in 1900 at 20% of the total County schools. Black schoolhouses in these years displayed forms similar to their white contemporaries, usually one-room frame schools<sup>9</sup> (Figure 4).

Clearly one of the most significant developments in the evolution of public schools in the late 19th century proved to



Figure 4. Middlebrook Colored School, 1882. Typical one-room schoolhouse form found for black schools as well.

be the increase in the number of graded schools, schools containing more than one room. Throughout the late 19th century, the state strongly encouraged the development of graded schools as one of the primary means of improving rural education. Ten years after the establishment of the public schools, Augusta County had ten two-room and four three-room schools. By 1890 the number of two-room schools had more than doubled to twenty-two. These graded schools were located in larger towns or villages, such as Middlebrook, Greenville, Mt. Sidney, Stuarts Draft, or New Hope.<sup>10</sup> Instruction in these schools would usually be divided into a primary room, for grades one through three; an upper room, for grades four through seven; and often some high school in a third room. These larger graded schools became increasingly popular in the early twentieth century, and many remained in use until 1950.

Greater variety of form exists among two-room schools than one-room schools. Two-room schools can be divided into two types, those originally built as two rooms and those enlarged from one to two rooms. Examples of the first type were usually long, rectangular frame buildings with a longitudinal facade facing the road (Figure 5, 6). Either one central or two adjoining doors, flanked by two windows to each side, pierced the

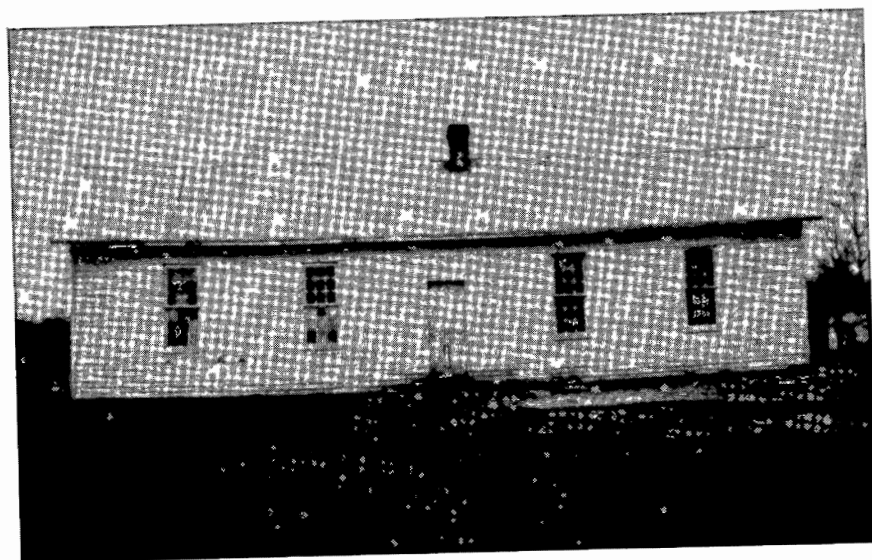


Figure 5. Christians Colored School, a two-room school, built in 1880, Pastures District near Buffalo Gap.



Figure 6. Cotapaxi School, a two-room school, built in 1882, Riverheads District near Vesuvius.



Figure 7. West View School, south of Weyers Cave. The original room, to the left in the photograph, was built in 1874-5, and the second room was added between 1885-90.

facade of most of the pre-1920 examples. A central partition divided the space into rooms of equal size, and a stove flue along the partition served both rooms.

Greater variety exists among the schools built in two parts. Local patrons and trustees made the decisions for the type and nature of the additions to one-room schools, creating different forms. Some examples, such as the West View School, were enlarged to copy the long two-room form, with its longitudinal facade (Figure 7). The addition, slightly larger than the original school, was built off the original entrance gable, and new exterior doors were created for both rooms in the center of the new facade. However, additive two-room school plans more often reflected the two-part evolution of the building. At Moffett's Creek, the new addition created an "L"-shaped design, with the new room being accessible only through the old room (Figure 8). The interior finish in these two-room schools followed the



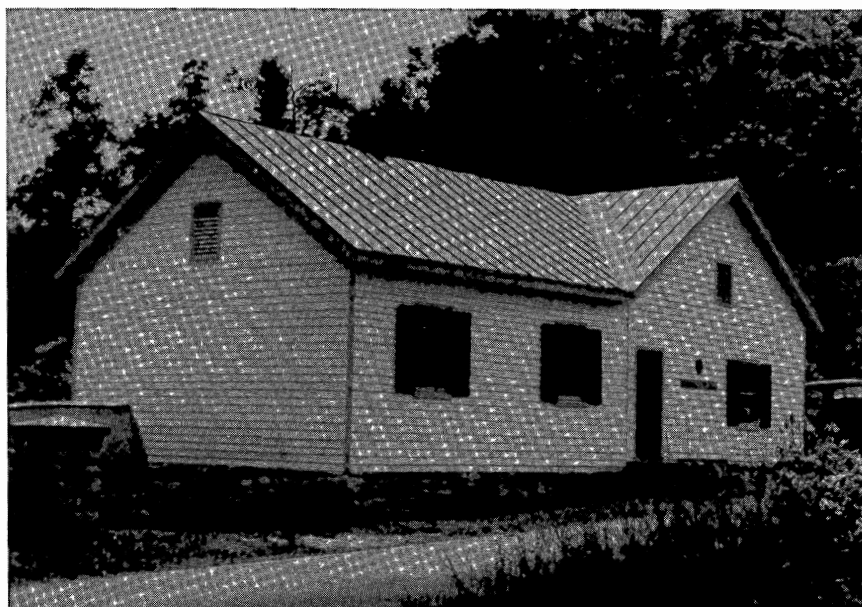


Figure 8. Moffett's Creek School, a two-room school in Newport. The first room was constructed in 1873, with a one-room addition in the 1880s.

traditional practice of wood sheathing, plaster or a combination of the two on the walls and ceiling.

After the State began its School Building Service in 1920, several new ideas were introduced into the familiar two-room plan. When the facade remained on the longitudinal wall, the entrances to each classroom were often moved to each end of the facade (Figure 9). Occasionally, the entrance was placed in the gable end of the building (Figure 10). Larger, multi-paned windows replaced the smaller six-over-six sash, greatly improving interior lighting to meet new specifications. These rows of clustered windows would extend along either the front or back longitudinal walls. Many of the post-1920 two-room schools built in the County were for black students and unfortunately have either been razed or have deteriorated considerably.

The early three-room schools also followed a domestic scale. Like the Verona School, the only standing example of this type, these early twentieth century schools displayed a front longitudinal block, containing two rooms and entrance hall, and a rear, one-room ell. As at Verona, these were often embellished

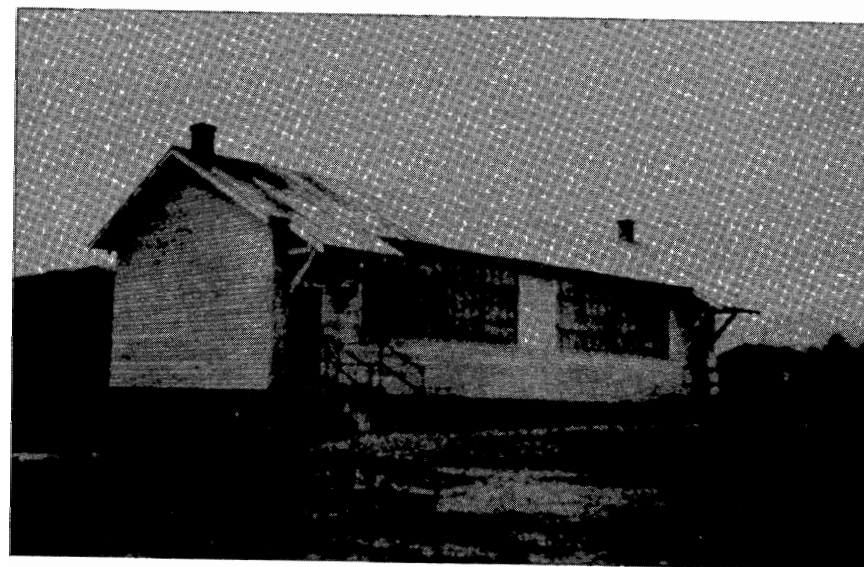


Figure 9. Craigsville Colored Schoolhouse, a two-room school, built in 1926 according to plans provided by the School Building Service. Note the large windows located along the facade only.

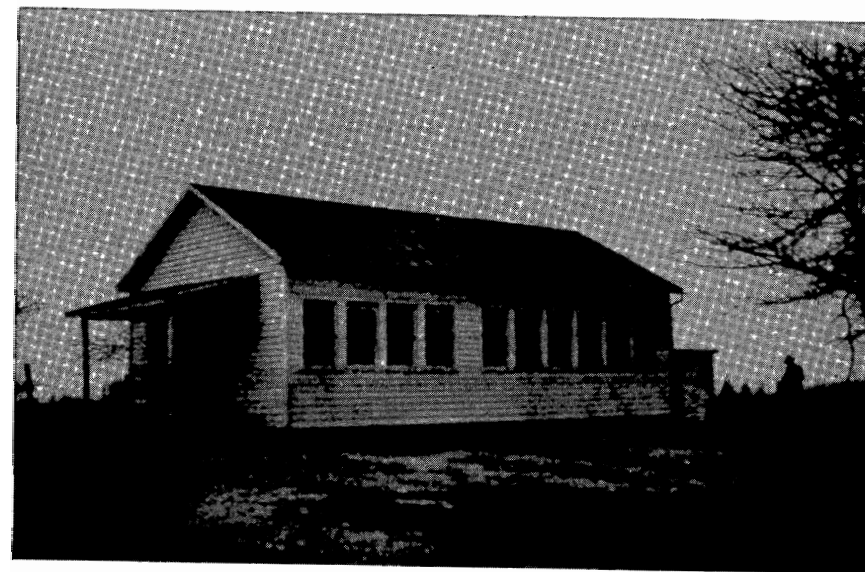


Figure 10. Cedar Green Colored School, 1927, a two-room school according to state specifications, with improved lighting.

with a central cross gable and front porch, copying features from vernacular houses of the period (Figure 11, 12).

With the loose structure of Virginia's public school system in the late 19th century, local officials and patrons had considerable control over the daily operations of the schools. Be-

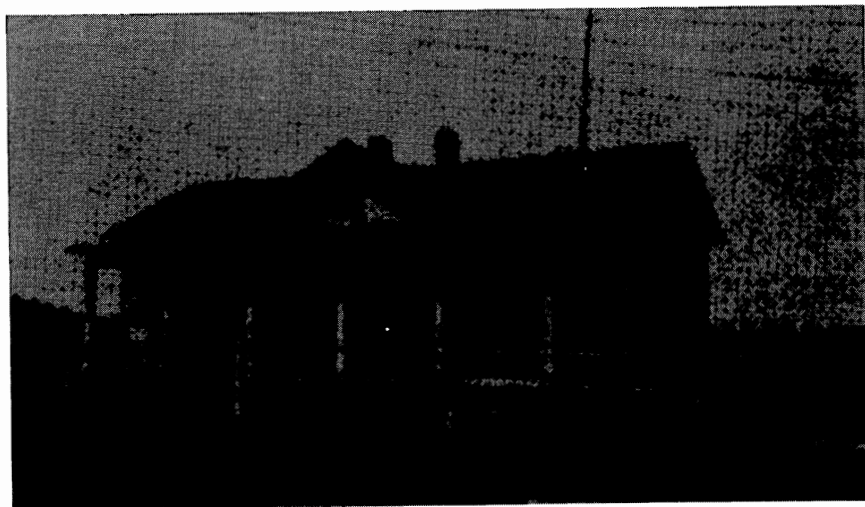


Figure 11. Verona School, a three-room school built in 1911. Now office of Lee-Jackson Motor Lodge.

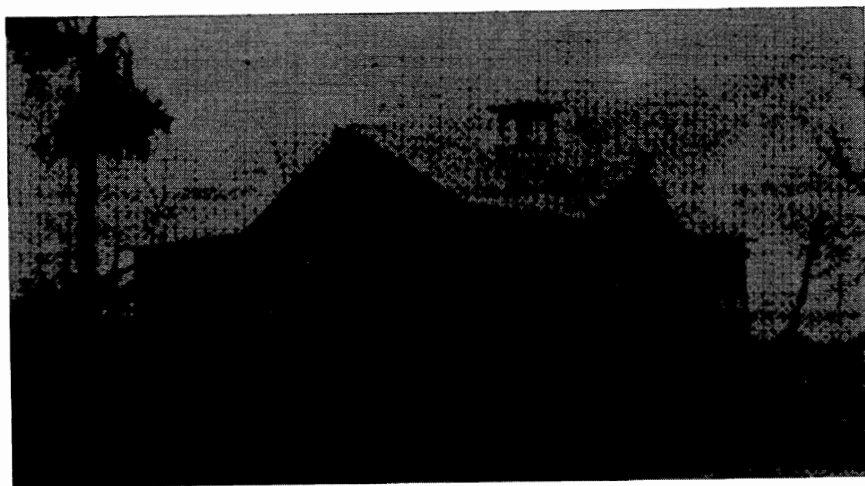


Figure 12. Mt. Pisgah School, a three-room school built in 1907 west of Mt. Sidney.

cause the state-appointed county superintendents were paid only as a part-time position to handle their many responsibilities, they delegated numerous administrative activities to the trustees of each district. The trustees then became the governing body for their jurisdiction. Working closely with the patrons, the trustees made major decisions from choosing teachers to determining the locations of the schools. The procedures involved in the construction of new schoolhouses illustrate the partnership that developed between patrons and trustees in the day-to-day operation of the schools. Both the trustees and the patrons supplied the needed materials, from the hardware to school supplies such as brooms and water buckets. Patrons often furnished a sizeable amount of the labor and often donated the land as well, complicating later sale of the school buildings.<sup>11</sup>

NOTE: This article was abstracted from a recent National Register Thematic Nomination entitled "Public Schools in Augusta County, Virginia, 1870-1940," written by the author. The author would like to acknowledge the assistance of the Augusta County School Board, particularly Eugene Smith, and Dick Hamrick of the Augusta County Historical Society. Many of the photographs included in the article have come from a 1932 Fire Insurance Survey of Augusta County Schools, loaned for this study from the Augusta County School Board.

The second article, which will appear in the Fall 1985 bulletin, will trace the development of the public schools in the early twentieth century, examining the efforts towards consolidation, modern school construction, and the diversification of the school curriculum.

#### Footnotes

1. William Allen Link, "Public Schooling and Social Change in Rural Virginia." (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Virginia, 1981), p. 276.
2. *Virginia School Reports*, Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1871-2 (Richmond, 1972), p. 20.
3. *Ibid.*, 1870-1, pp. 5-6.
4. *Ibid.*, p. 10.
5. *Ibid.*, 1872-3, p. 38.
6. *Ibid.*, 1880-1; 1890-1.
7. *Ibid.*, 1871-2; 1880-1; Link, p. 101.
8. *Virginia School Reports*, 1871-2, p. 34.
9. *Ibid.*, 1870-1; 1900-1; Jedediah Hotchkiss, *Historical Atlas of Augusta County, Virginia* (Chicago: Waterman Watkins & Co., 1885), p. 36.
10. *Virginia School Reports*, 1880-1; 1890-1.
11. Link, pp. 75-77, 153, 267.

# THE MIDDLEBROOK CHARGE AND THE MOFFETTS CREEK GERMAN REFORMED CONGREGATION

By Bowman Cutter

The small village of Newport, in the Riverheads District of Augusta County, Virginia, lies in the heart of one of the most scenic stretches within the historic Shenandoah Valley. Newport, alternately known by the name of its former post office, Moffetts Creek, was settled in the early part of the 18th century by Scots who emigrated from Northern Ireland to Pennsylvania and wended their way up the Shenandoah Valley. Later in that century, there was an influx of Germans, also from Pennsylvania, and even today there are many people with German names living in the area.

The Scottish inhabitants were generally Presbyterians by faith, and attended one or another of the several Presbyterian churches which had been established within five or more miles of Newport. The Germans, who were mainly of the Lutheran and Reformed faiths, probably attended St. John's Church near Middlebrook, some six miles from Newport. As was common in the early days, St. John's was a union church serving both Lutherans and German Reformed. Indeed, it was not until 1838 that the joint ownership of the St. John's property was dissolved by the Reformed people acquiring the interest of the Lutherans. Subsequently the Lutheran people moved to the location now known as Mt. Tabor Church, about two miles north of St. John's. Although no longer worshipping in the same church, the relations of the two congregations have continued cordial and happy.

At this point, it may be useful to describe the organization of the German Reformed Church as it evolved in America. Originally, the Reformed Church consisted of independent congregations unsupervised by any central body although nominally under the general supervision of the Synod of the Reformed Church of Holland. In 1746, Michael Schlatter came to America from St. Gall, Switzerland, commissioned by the "Reverend Deputies of the Synod of South and North Holland" to organize the Reformed Germans of Pennsylvania into churches. On September 27, 1747, Rev. Schlatter gathered a number of Re-

formed ministers and Elders in his home in Philadelphia, and there organized the "Coetus" (Synod) of Pennsylvania as the highest administrative body of the Reformed Church in America. In theory, this placed all of the Reformed congregations in America under the jurisdiction of the Reformed church of the Netherlands. In practice, little more supervision was exercised by the Dutch Reformed Church than had been in the past, and little assistance was provided to the American congregations. The practical result was that the churches in America were forced to rely on the Netherlands Church for ordained pastors, and these the church was unable to provide in the numbers required. In 1793, for example, when the Reformed Church finally declared its independence from Holland, and founded the "Synod of the High German Reformed Church in the United States of America," the Church consisted of but 22 ministers to serve 178 congregations with a total membership of about 15,000.

In 1819, the Reformed congregation were grouped into eight regional "Classes" (districts), although the Classis of Virginia was not organized until 1825. The Classes, which were composed of representatives of the churches in the region, elected delegates to the meetings of the Synod. In time, as the church grew, it became necessary to organize additional synods, which in turn reported to a General Synod.

The concept of "Charges" — a group of individual congregations served by one pastor — does not appear formally in the records of the annual meetings of the Virginia Classis until 1841. However, the term was in common usage much earlier. It probably came into use from a shortage of ministers and an inability on the part of individual congregations — most of which were quite small in number — to pay for the services of a full time pastor. Hence, ministers were required to take charge of a conveniently located group of congregations, each contributing its share to the wages of the pastor.

Presumably Newport was first a preaching station — a place where Reformed ministers came from time to time to preach to those of the Reformed faith, to perform marriage ceremonies, and to baptize infants. These meetings, most likely, were first held in private houses. Later, although the exact date has not been determined, a log meeting house was erected about one-half mile south-east of Newport on the Spottswood road and it is likely that this building was used both as a school and for religious purposes. It is also probable that this meeting house served the

Lutherans and Presbyterians of the village as well as the Reformed people.

In November 1835, the Rev. John C. Hensel became the pastor of what was then known as the Middlebrook Charge. The Charge consisted of St. John's, St. Peter's near Churchville, and Mt. Carmel near Spottswood. It was during the pastorage of Rev. Hensel that, in 1843, the Newport Reformed Congregation was organized under the name "New Bethany" and, on petition, enrolled by the Virginia Classis and made a part of the Middlebrook Charge.

The next pastor of the Middlebrook Charge, and hence of the Newport Reformed Church, was the Rev. John H. Crawford, who had been the first president of the board of trustees of Catawba College, N.C. He served as pastor from 1858 until 1864. While we know little of what transpired within the church during that period, we do know that the hardships of the Civil War must have made the task of the Rev. Crawford most difficult. But the old log church was used on a fairly regular basis for religious purposes, not only by the German Reformed congregation, but by the Lutherans and Presbyterians as well. In a letter from Letitia Ralston Smiley (a Presbyterian) to her brother away at war, she writes, "There will be preaching on the hill tonight."

The Rev. Crawford died during the last year of the War, perhaps from typhoid fever which struck down many in the valley, perhaps from the difficulties and hardships of the War. The Congregation was without a pastor from 1864 until 1868 when the Rev. John Lantz, his wife and five daughters arrived from the North Carolina Classis to accept a call to the Middlebrook Charge.

According to his youngest daughter, Willi Augusta Lantz, Rev. Lantz accepted the call to Virginia in order to provide an education for the older girls of the family, who then proceeded to attend the Methodist school, Wesleyan Female Institute, in Staunton. At that time there was no parsonage attached to the Middlebrook Charge, so the Lantzes had to locate where they could find a house to rent. So they lived first at the Randolph place in Middlebrook, then moved to Newport, and finally to Summerdean. After about four years, Rev. Lantz left the Middlebrook Charge to accept a post at the Reformed Church in Taneytown, Maryland — but not before two of his daughters had formed friendships which later ripened into marriages. In 1875, Ellen Elvira, the eldest daughter of Rev. Lantz, married T. M.

Smiley of Newport; the third daughter, Henrietta Caroline married Jacob Silor who lived near St. John's Church.

After a year's vacancy, the Rev. W. C. B. Shulenburger was obtained as pastor of the Middlebrook Charge. But he only stayed one year, following which the churches in the charge were again without a pastor. In the absence of a pastor, it was the Elders who held the congregations together, conducted such services as were conducted, and sought to find a permanent pastor. But the Middlebrook Charge was plagued by the same problems — perhaps in greater degree — that plagued all of the Reformed Churches in the South: a great shortage of ordained ministers, a lack of money to pay decent wages to ministers, and defections to other denominations.

The hard times of the 1870s resulted in a change in the status of the Middlebrook Charge. From a self-supporting group of churches, it became a missionary field entirely dependent on the Virginia Classis for its support. In 1876, Anderson J. Whitmore, who was licensed to preach but had not been ordained, was appointed to the Middlebrook Charge by the Classis.

Licentiate Whitmore, who must have been a man of great determination and energy, revived the Middlebrook Charge. He paid particular attention to the Newport Congregation and most of his efforts were directed there. With the help of Mrs. T. M. Smiley, a daughter of the Rev. Lantz, he persuaded William H. Fulton to donate land for a new church building. On this land, Whitmore, serving as architect, building committee and general overseer, erected a frame building which was about one-half mile closer to Moffetts Creek (and hence closer to the village of Newport) than the old dilapidated log meeting house. When completed, the name of the church was changed from New Bethany to St. Paul's. It is likely that Mrs. Smiley proposed the name St. Paul's in remembrance of her father who, in 1850, organized the St. Paul's German Reformed Church in Rowan County, North Carolina. The trustees of the Newport Congregation at that time were John Lucas, W. J. Doperman and D. F. Lowman.

Unfortunately, Licentiate Whitmore spent so much of his time reviving the Newport Reformed Congregation and building St. Paul's Church that the St. John's congregation felt neglected and complained to the Classis. The result was that St. John's decided to return to a self-support basis and to call a new pastor. Accordingly, the Congregation of St. John's called Samuel L.



Whitmore, a brother of the former pastor, to be its new pastor. This call was confirmed by the Classis in May 1878, which at the same time instructed the new pastor to organize a Reformed congregation at Mint Spring and to assist his brother with mission work in the village of Middlebrook.

During the next four years, the Whitmore brothers organized the missions at Middlebrook and Mint Springs into congregations and saw to it that the congregations were provided with meeting houses. At Middlebrook, an uncompleted building owned by the trustees of a disbanded Methodist Episcopal congregation was purchased, the building completed and dedicated as Grace Reformed Church. How and by whom the church at Mint Spring was built is not known at this time.

In 1882, the Virginia Classis met in annual session at Grace Church in Middlebrook. It was clear that the St. John's congregation was still unhappy with the situation in which it felt neglected. In an effort to resolve the situation, the Classis divided the Middlebrook Charge. Rev. Elias Welty became pastor of the newly designated St. John's Charge, which embraced the Mint Spring congregation as well as St. John's. Licentiate S. L. Whitmore was assigned as pastor of the Grace and St. Paul's congregations, which retained the name "Middlebrook Charge," and his brother Anderson J. Whitmore left the area. The divided charge, unable to afford to retain two pastors, lasted only until 1884, when the old title of "Middlebrook Charge" was again used to include the four congregations. However, Grace and Mint Spring soon faded from the picture. In 1890, the Mint Spring Church was sold to the Methodists, and the Reformed Congregation disbanded. In 1897, the Grace Reformed Congregation disbanded, and, in 1901, the Grace Church property was sold and the proceeds used to build a new parsonage at St. John's.

The high point in the existence of St. Paul's Church occurred in 1915 when the Virginia Classis selected the Newport Reformed Congregation to host its 77th Annual Session. It was also in this year that Mrs. T. M. Smiley purchased the reversion rights to the land on which St. Paul's Church was located, it having originally been granted subject to reversion of title if the property ceased to be used for religious purposes.

The last pastor to serve St. Paul's was the Rev. Horace R. Lequear. It was under his pastorage that, early in 1929, the church building was completely destroyed by fire. But the

congregation lingered on. In a letter to the members of St. Paul's, dated May 2, 1929, the Rev. Lequear wrote,

The people, our members, are the church: the building is not. We have the opportunity to be just as much of an influence for Christ this year as we were last year. Let us with pure and devoted hearts turn our calamity into community blessing.

The Newport Reformed congregation struggled earnestly to find means to rebuild the church. However, the shadow of the great depression of the 1930s was lengthening over the land, and the congregation finally concluded that it would be unwise to assume the heavy financial burden that rebuilding St. Paul's would entail. Two years later, the Congregation also decided that it was no longer possible to retain a Reformed organization at Newport. Accordingly, at the 1931 meeting of the Classis, the congregation petitioned to disband. The Classis approved a resolution that,

The petition of the St. Paul's congregation be granted with the sincere regrets of the Classis that such action appears necessary in the best judgment of the brethren who formulated the petition.

The Classis also authorized the President and Stated Clerk to "prepare and sign whatever letters of dismissal to other churches may be asked for under the petition."

And so the Newport Reformed Congregation, which for almost 90 years had served a vital role in the religious life of the community, finally passed out of existence.

In 1934, a small piece of land on which the first Newport Reformed Church had been built was sold by the Classis. The proceeds of the sale, \$50.00 were donated to Catawba College, Salisbury, North Carolina, to be designated as the Mrs. T. M. Smiley Student Loan Fund. An effort was made to sell the land upon which St. Paul's Church had stood, but in light of the reversion clause, the Classis found that it had no further claim to the land.

Today (1972) there are no remains to be found of the log building which first served the Newport Reformed congregation as a meeting house, and only the ruins of a stone foundation, mark the place where St. Paul's Church once stood.

# RECORD OF CHANGES OF OWNERSHIP OF THE ST. PAUL'S CHURCH PROPERTY

*Feb. 18, 1878* William H. and Letitia M. Fulton conveyed to the trustees of St. Paul's German Reformed Church (John Lucas, W. J. Doperman and D. F. Lowman) 7.6 acres of land with the proviso that the land would revert to the grantors if the property ceased to be used for religious purposes. Ref: Augusta County Deed Book No. 92, pages 502 & 503.

*March 14, 1878* Samuel and Eliza Crickenberger conveyed one half acre of land to the trustees of St. Paul's for use as a graveyard. Ref: Augusta County Deed Book No. 93, pg. 347

*June 22, 1912* Walter E. Earhart conveyed to Emmet Earhart for \$900.00, a plot of land on which St. Paul's Church stood. The conveyance included the reversion rights to the church property. Ref: Augusta County DB 173, pg. 381

*Feb. 10, 1914* Emmet and Cora L. Earhart deeded to Mrs. M. Belle Lucas, 7.6 acres of land including the St. Paul's Church property and the reversion rights thereto. Ref: Augusta County DB 177, pg. 39

*Feb. 17, 1915* M. Belle Lucas transferred to Ellen L. Smiley for \$350.00, 7.6 acres of land including the right of reversion of title to the church property. Ref: Augusta County DB 180, pg. 469

*March 9, 1923* Ellen L. Smiley deeded to Preston B. Hogshead for \$250.00, five of the 7.6 acres of land acquired from M. Belle Lucas. The church property and the right of reversion of its title were retained by Ellen L. Smiley. Ref: Augusta County DB 211, pg. 349

*April 5, 1951* Preston B. Hogshead deeded to Harvey Chapman the five acres of land he had acquired from Ellen L. Smiley. Ref: Augusta County DB 382, pg. 121

# Augusta Memorial Association.

AT A MEETING of the Executive Committee of the Augusta Memorial Association held on Monday, ~~May 11th, 1901.~~ On motion, the following Ladies of Augusta County and City of Staunton, were appointed to solicit contributions of flowers for Memorial Day ~~Wednesday~~ *Wednesday* May ~~12th~~ *12th*, and that all such contributions be sent to the Opera House on the morning of the ~~12th~~ *12th*, not later than 10 o'clock; after that hour to the Cemetery.

Mrs. J. H. Sillings and Mrs. J. M. H. Randolph, Parnassus.  
Mrs. T. S. Hogshead, Stribling Springs  
Mrs. H. H. Hanger and Mrs. W. B. Dunlap, Churchville.  
Mrs. J. S. Guy and Mrs. J. W. Montgomery, Deerfield.  
Mrs. J. R. Hidy and Mrs. G. S. Craig, Craigsville.  
Miss Lucy Dangerfield and Miss Katie Smith, Rollo.  
Mrs. A. B. Lightner, Valley Mills.  
Mrs. G. W. Hevener and Mrs. S. C. Brown, Swoopes.  
Miss Snead, Pond Gap.  
Mrs. C. W. Baylor, Mrs. Mat. Fix and Mrs. T. M. Smiley, Summerdean.  
Miss Cecil Taliaferro, Moffets Creek.  
Mrs. J. F. Clemmer and Mrs. M. W. D. Hogshead, Middlebrook.  
Mrs. W. P. Mish, Mrs. A. A. Sproul, Mrs. W. C. McKemy, Mrs. J. D. Lilly, Mrs. J. A. Bumgardner, Greenville.  
Mrs. S. F. Carson, Spottswood.  
Mrs. J. W. Gilkeson, Mint Spring.  
Mrs. W. B. Patterson, Barterbrook.  
Mrs. C. B. Coiner and Mrs. Sam Life, Fishersville.  
Mrs. E. G. Fishburn, Mrs. J. B. Winston, Mrs. Eliza Coiner, Mrs. G. J. Pratt, Waynesboro.  
Mrs. Z. T. Ker and Mrs. J. H. Crawford, New Hope.  
Mrs. S. H. Walker and Mrs. W. B. Crawford, Mt. Meridian.  
Mrs. C. S. Roller and Mrs. Crawford Miller, Fort Defiance.  
Mrs. Dr. Crawford, Mt. Sidney.  
Mrs. Frank R. Bell, Stonewall.  
Mrs. D. Fisher, Long Glade.  
Mrs. J. W. Crist and Mrs. H. H. Kiracofe, Sangersville.  
Mrs. A. G. Paul and Mrs. J. W. Hopewell, Mt. Solon.  
Mrs. Anna Cochran, Folly Mills.

Medames. J. N. McFarland, D. P. Woodward, E. M. Cushing, W. L. Olivier, J. M. Lickliter, E. A. Fulcher, G. G. Gooch, O. R. Funston, C. A. Holt, Alex. Hart, J. Bumgardner, A. H. Fultz. And Misses Lizzie Gay, Fannie Shaver, Fannie Tannehill, Annie Fallen. Margaret McChesney, Fanny Tams, Carrie Crowle, Fanny Blackley, all of the City of Staunton.

*Ellist G. Fishburne*  
T. D. RANSON,  
President Augusta Memorial Association.  
J. N. McFarland,  
Chairman Executive Committee.

J. N. McFARLAND,  
Acting Secretary.

contributed by Walter Hickok

# SURVIVORS OF THE UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMY AND NAVY 1910

Augusta County, Virginia  
Copied by Dorothy L. Weaver

(Taken from the 1910 Augusta Co., Virginia and City of Staunton, Virginia Census)

<i>Beverley Manor District:</i>			Newcome, George H.	76 ?
Piper, George A.	66 C.A.	Dudley, Arthur W.	65 C.A.	
Cook, Samuel L.	66 C.A.	Terrell, Robert	65 C.A.	
Bucher, Milton W.	62 C.A.	Caricofe, Simson	77 C.A.	
Roberts, Warren T.	77 C.A.	Bailey, W. D.	75 C.A.	
Siple, George D.	71 C.A.	Todd, John W.	64 C.A.	
Thacker, William	75 C.A.	Pforr, George	69 U.A.	
Dudley, George W.	72 C.A.	Baer, John S.	72 C.A.	
Hanger, Jacob A.	72 C.A.	Shumate, Wm. C.	67 C.A.	
Edwards, Daniel	69 C.A.	Desper, John B.	65 C.A.	
Trimble, George W.	63 C.A.	Beach, Dabney S.	64 C.A.	
Teaford, David H.	67 C.A.	Croft, Samuel	66 C.A.	
Hamilton, Jacob P.	68 C.A.	Croft, Jacob	64 C.A.	
Dull, Jacob H.	79 C.A.	Bosserman, George H.	64 C.A.	
Engleman, Jacob H.	62 C.A.	Chapman, Austin J.	67 U.A.	
Greaver, Alexander W.	69 C.A.	Taylor, James J.	65 C.A.	
Parsons, David M.	66 C.A.	Harris, William F.	72 C.A.	
Robertson, James S.	66 C.A.	Taylor, John H.	70 C.A.	
McCormick, William H.	63 C.A.	Williams, Elisha T.	68 C.A.	
Thomas, Charles A.	69 C.A.	Hamilton, Samuel P.	70 C.A.	
Wampler, Simon Wm.	67 C.A.	Sheppe, Rheuben J.	76 C.A.	
Wampler, Benjamin F.	69 C.A.	Brockway, Solomon P.	72 U.A.	
Ramsey, John D.	73 C.A.	Neel, Syrus F.	72 C.A.	
Ballew, James L.	64 C.A.	Gaddy, James C.	66 C.A.	
Hulvey, William J.	74 C.A.	Powers, George W.	72 C.A.	
Rutherford, John	67 C.A.			
Gay, Erskine	68 C.A.	<i>Middle River Dist.:</i>		
Snyder, James A.	76 C.A.	Walker, Silas H.	71 C.A.	
Vinson, Edward F.	84 C.A.	Moore, George W.	72 C.A.	
Fultz, Marshall K.	76 C.A.	Roller, Albert H.	73 C.A.	
Gibson, William W.	78 C.A.	Carroll, Samuel	78 C.A.	
Gibson, Louis	74 C.A.	McAlister, Richard	71 C.A.	
Burford, John W.	69 C.A.	Mohler, Jacob R.	60 C.A.	
Christman, Thomas F.	75 C.A.	Mohler, J. Leonard	69 C.A.	
Fauver, James H.	65 C.A.	McCauley, Henry J.	76 C.A.	
Collins, George L.	63 C.A.	Kaylor, Samuel H.	67 C.A.	
Brown, John M.	70 C.A.	Patterson, John L.	73 C.A.	
Marrs, Baxter D.	66 C.A.	Ewing, James E.	69 U.A.	
Rexroad, Andrew J.	69 C.A.	McClung, J. Frank	64 C.A.	

McClung, Thomas W.	74 C.A.	Shumake, Joseph P.	75 C.A.
Jollett, James F.	73 C.A.	Folds, James J.	72 C.A.
Scott, John C.	62 C.A.	Bell, Dr. William	73 C.A.
Cox, Alexander H.	69 C.A.	Ritchie, John C.	76 C.A.
Tanner, William B.	63 C.A.	Loyd, Patrick	66 C.A.
Patterson, George W.	73 C.A.	Sipe, John H.	63 C.A.
Dickenson, Robert	63 C.A.	Sheets, John D.	75 C.A.
Rankin, Thomas	67 C.A.	Tutwiler, Jacob	72 C.A.
Harrell, John L.	70 C.A.	Foley, Samuel H.	73 C.A.
(Harrem)?		Whitsell, John L.	65 C.A.
Ritchie, James K. P.	66 C.A.	Cook, John M.	67 C.A.
Kerr, James F.	65 C.A.	Hamrick, Henry L.	70 C.A.
Williams, Andrew J.	62 C.A.	White, W. George	83 C.A.
Reese, Peter	80 C.A.	Livick, J. Henry	66 C.A.
Keister, Isaac	70 U.A.	Huffman, Wm. T.	66 C.A.
Coffman, Jefferson P.	67 C.A.	Crawford, James W.	77 C.A.
Houff, Benjamin F.	74 C.A.	Miller, G. Crawford	64 C.A.
Harris, John H.	64 C.A.	Evans, Hiram L.	67 C.A.
Monroe, James B.	65 C.A.		
Ham, John W.	64 C.A.	<i>North River District:</i>	
Crickenberger, Joseph	67 C.A.	Cook, Abraham	71 C.A.
Clark, William C.	65 U.A.	Dinkle, John	84 C.A.
Crickenberger, George W.	64 C.A.	Bell, John V.	64 C.A.
Quick, James	74 C.A.	Denison, Harve	66 C.A.
Kidd, Clifford C.	68 C.A.	Sheets, Jacob S.	67 C.A.
Page, Robert M.	65 C.A.	Alexander, Henry	70 C.A.
Dodd, John J.	62 C.A.	Ruleman, Wm. C.	62 C.A.
Jones, James W.	87 C.A.	Rusmisel, Wm.	70 C.A.
Ramsey, John L.	67 C.A.	Brooks, Robert	86 C.A.
Weade, James W.	69 C.A.	Wilbarger, Hugh J.	62 C.A.
Huddle, John D.	64 C.A.	Landes, Joseph	62 C.A.
Merritt, William	90 C.A.	Landes, George H.	64 C.A.
Layman, George W.	74 C.A.		
Fitzgerald, Edward A.	72 C.A.	<i>Parnassus:</i>	
Drumheller, Deries E.	64 C.A.	Foley, Lewis C.	63 C.A.
Eavev, Daniel	65 C.A.	Bvers, James B.	75 C.A.
Van Pelt, N. Brown	65 C.A.	Dunlap, Madison	80 C.A.
Linn, Robert H.	65 C.A.	Wiseman, Elijah J.	67 C.A.
Byers, Samuel	74 C.A.	Fairburn, Andrew J.	71 C.A.
Kagey, Benjamin I.	64 C.A.	Rawley, John H.	64 C.A.
Corbin, James Henry	80 C.A.	Snyder, Joseph	81 U.A.
Glover, John W.	73 C.A.		
Hoff, Granville	82 C.A.	<i>Mt. Solon:</i>	
Tutwiler, G. Harvey	68 C.A.	McFall, Hamilton B.	64 C.A.
Huffman, John S.	63 C.A.	Knott, Cornelius S.	71 C.A.
Roller, George S.	64 C.A.	Hott, John E.	63 U.A.
Foley, William M.	65 C.A.	Knott, William M.	64 C.A.
Ruebush, John S.	65 C.A.	Huffer, William	65 C.A.
Landes, William R.	70 C.A.	Blizzard, Morgan V.	65 C.A.
Bell, Frank R.	69 C.A.	Simmons, Samuel	69 C.A.

Stoudmyer, George W.	65 C.A.	Wagner, John A.	62 C.A.
Curtis, James	61 C.A.	Gilkerson, Wm G.	72 C.A.
(black person)		Ritchie, George D.	64 C.A.
Timberlake, Albert	73 C.A.	Snyder, John R.	63 C.A.
(black person)		Rohrer, Jacob H.	65 C.A.
Good, John C.	65 C.A.	Smith, Gideon R.	80 C.A.
Blair, Charles W.	67 C.A.	Sandy, Wm. J.	66 C.A.
Huffer, Daniel	70 C.A.	Baldwin, John W.	70 C.A.
Huffer, Dave	75 C.A.	Lessley, James A. H.	71 C.A.
Randolph, B. Henry	68 C.A.	Lange, Wm. C.	65 C.A.
Bolen, James E.	72 C.A.	Harvey, Edward P.	61 C.A.
Hall, Thomas J.	62 C.A.	Keller, Frederick G.	83 C.A.
Hanna, Henry F.	62 C.A.	Lane, George T.	78 C.A.
		Hamilton, Henry H.	79 C.A.
<i>Parnassus:</i>		Weaver, John W.	82 C.A.
Oboough, Cyrus M.	62 C.A.	Brooks, G. W.	82 C.A.
		Barksdale, James A.	75 C.A.
<i>North River:</i>		Turner, Logan	58 C.A.
Adkins, Jackson	76 C.A.	Dunlap, James L.	66 C.A.
Louma, Jacob P.	61 C.A.	Hartman, Littleton S.	79 C.A.
Neff, S. C. Sr.	67 C.A.	Whitesell, James W.	66 C.A.
Deffenbaugh, Benami	67 C.A.	Argenbright, Geo. W.	63 C.A.
Hawkins, S. M.	73 C.A.	Newman, Wm W.	81 C.A.
Bowers, Wm. T.	72 C.A.	Balser, Ben F.	74 C.A.
Lambert, Adam	84 C.A.	Spradlin, Sam S.	65 C.A.
Lytton, Albert W.	67 C.A.	Robertson, Stephen F.	73 C.A.
Sillings, R. M.	65 C.A.	Luck, Marcellus (blind)	65 C.A.
Anderson, A. Perry	67 C.A.		
Mitchell, Abel	71 C.A.	<i>Pond Gap:</i>	
Wichael, Danual	67 C.A.	McLain, Aberham S.	72 C.A.
Phillips, John E.	65 C.A.	Patteson, A. Lee	60 C.A.
McCutchan, James Y.	73 C.A.	Holbert, Edward A.	65 C.A.
Crist, Jno W. P.	69 C.A.	Lewis Mason 28 C.N. (too young,	
Davis, Francis A.	74 C.A.	next family:	
Knight, William	70 C.A.	Van Lear, Robert	57 C.N.
		Swisher, James S.	63 C.A.
<i>Pastures District:</i>		Fridley, James W.	65 C.A.
Armstrong, Henry C.	75 C.A.	McNeal, Wm H.	62 C.A.
Cease, John W.	74 C.A.	Ramsey, Wm S.	74 C.A.
Wilson, Joseph A.	72 C.A.	Beck, Alexander	67 C.A.
Masincupp, John H.	71 C.A.	Brown, J. T.	73 C.A.
Turner, Thomas J.	64 U.A.	Farish, John T.	92 C.A.
Dunlap, Samuel A.	64 C.A.	Beck, Andrew D. S.	61 C.A.
Dunlan. Robert B.	67 C.A.	Rowe, J. H.	63 C.A.
Shull, Henry	70 C.A.	Kelly, Jackson	74 C.A.
Baylor, James R.	73 C.A.	Cales, W. H. H.	64 U.A.
Lightner, Wm. T.	64 C.A.	Altizer, J. A.	67 C.A.
Knopp, Noah	86 C.A.	Feller, John H.	79 C.A.
Hoover, Robert D.	77 C.A.	Stitser, Marshall	63 C.A.
Masincupp, David V.	67 C.A.	Stitser, Jonas	73 C.A.

Kiser, Adam	69 C.A.	McGuffin, Jno W.	66 C.A.
Bauserman, Samuel	84 C.A.	Harlow, Thomas W.	67 C.A.
Props, Morgan	67 C.A.	Strickler, Jno M.	62 C.A.
McCreary, Joshua	70 U.A.	Cochran, Wm H.	72 C.A.
	& C.A.	Almarode, G. H.	67 C.A.
		Kelley, Geo. H.	67 C.A.
		Anderson, Robt J.	65 C.A.
<i>Riverheads District:</i>		Almarode, Simon H.	65 C.A.
<i>Moffetts Creek:</i>		Fitch, Chas. W.	65 C.A.
Strickler, David	68 C.A.	Palmer, H. Clay	65 C.A.
Sensebaugh, Thomas	73 C.A.	Melton, John W.	65 C.A.
McCutchan, John L.	64 C.A.	Engleman, Jas. W.	66 C.A.
Strickler, Richard	65 C.A.	Whitesell, Benj H.	85 C.A.
Runkle, Christian	65 C.A.	Engleman, W. D.	74 C.A.
Buchanan, John R.	67 C.A.	Hawpe, G. C.	72 C.A.
Gregory, Thomas A.	77 C.A.	Van Fossen, Jas W.	71 C.A.
		Pilson, G. W.	63 C.A.
<i>Newport:</i>		Ray, Saml L.	77 C.A.
Smiley, Thomas M.	66 C.A.	Williams, David H.	64 C.A.
Rowe, Amos	73 C.A.	Talley, ———	74 C.A.
Hite, John H.	75 C.A.	(no first name given)	
Beard, John W.	68 C.A.	Keiser, George F.	73 C.A.
Shreckhise, Rev. J. M.	79 C.A.	Armentrout, Jacob C.	67 C.A.
Demastus, Edward A.	73 C.A.	Hanger, John A.	63 C.A.
Lightner, George P.	69 C.A.		
Wilson, George W.	69 C.A.	<i>Town of Greenville:</i>	
Brown, Alexander J.	72 C.A.	Chapman, G. M.	64 C.A.
McCormick, Nathaniel D.	83 C.A.	Vines, Isaac N.	75 C.A.
Wallace, James W.	69 C.A.	Burkholder, John W.	67 C.A.
McClure, Mathew T.	75 C.A.	Bell, J. Wm.	64 C.A.
Harris, James M.	63 C.A.		
Lowman, George J.	63 C.A.	<i>Middlebrook:</i>	
Erehart, John	70 C.A.	Miller, William	77 C.A.
Kennedy, Isaac	79 C.A.	Kniple, Addison W.	72 C.A.
Lilley, John D.	68 C.A.	Spitler, James M.	62 C.A.
Hamilton, Augustus H.	64 C.A.	Ellinger, Wm H.	64 C.A.
Lightner, John S.	70 C.A.	Wiseman, Wm E.	64 C.A.
Harvey, James A.	77 C.A.	Baylor, John M.	70 C.A.
Talley, Jessie M.	65 C.A.	Argenbright, John	65 C.A.
Zink, Henry H.	67 C.A.	Helmick, Wm M.	69 C.A.
Painter, John F.	66 C.A.	Shuey, John J.	70 C.A.
Harris, James F.	68 C.A.	Ponton, Richard H.	70 C.A.
Ramsey, Dabney C.	66 C.A.	McCutchan, James B.	70 C.A.
		Donahoo, John W.	68 C.A.
<i>Greenville:</i>		Crist, E. Thomas	70 C.A.
Steele, Wm H.	66 C.A.	Crist, Gerard E.	74 C.A.
Supple, Robert	64 C.A.	Benson, Henry B.	74 C.A.
Shinault, Wm	71 U.A.	Wiseman, John H.	65 C.A.
Hawpe, James W.	65 C.A.	Bumgardner, J. Alex.	63 C.A.

*South River District:*

*Waynesboro Town:*

Patterson, James A.	67 C.A.
Spradlin, Poard H.	72 C.A.
Roden, James B.	73 C.A.
Gallaher, Wm B.	70 C.A.
Dudley, James W.	66 C.A.
Schindel, John H.	66 C.A.
Alexander, Thomas W.	63 C.A.
Fry, Alvin C.	69 C.A.

*South River Dist.:*

Smith, John T.	63 C.A.
Leonard, M. Luther	70 C.A.
Coyner, George A.	72 C.A.
Thacker, Daniel	67 C.A.
Kerr, Samuel H.	71 C.A.
Hanger, Andrew T.	63 C.A.
Arnold, Abner A.	63 C.A.
Pelter, Sampson	76 C.A.
Coiner, John C.	77 C.A.
Coiner, Cornelius	69 C.A.
Coiner, J. N.	65 C.A.
Coiner, Elijah	75 C.A.
Fauber, John H.	73 C.A.
Chandler, John D.	68 C.A.
Shue, A. W.	79 C.A.
Huffman, Christian	73 C.A.
Ross, Wm H.	69 C.A.
Alexander, John F.	72 C.A.
Craig, David T.	74 C.A.
Coiner, Artemus D.	63 C.A.
Maxwell, W. D.	75 C.A.
Humphrey, John B.	68 C.A.
Newcomb, Henry A.	65 C.A.
Swisher, Wm F.	72 C.A.
Morris, Wm F.	65 C.A.
Terrell, John	68 C.A.
Brooks, George W.	68 C.A.
Herron, W. E.	67 C.A.
Woodward, Luke F.	63 C.A.
Shenk, John A.	80 C.A.
Palmer, M. V.	74 C.A.
Coiner, P. D.	64 C.A.
Koiner, Marion	68 C.A.
Taylor, George W.	65 C.A.
Fortune, James A.	62 C.A.
Pendleton, Benj. A.	63 C.A.
Clemmons, Joe H.	63 C.A.

Pleasants, P. B.	78 C.A.
Gaw, Robert N. Sr.	62 C.A.
Schoppert, Geo A. Capt	84 C.A.
Kennedy, James S.	71 C.A.
Plumb, Alfred	75 C.A.
Antrim, Thomas H.	78 C.A.
Allison, Richard	70 C.A.
Parker, John W. R.	78 U.A.
Jones, W. A.	69 C.A.
Swoope, Bolling R.	67 C.A.
Miller, Charles L.	76 C.A.
Perry, Robert	75 C.A.
Ferguson, J. B.	84 C.A.
Hall, T. H.	62 C.A.
Childress, David D.	67 C.A.
Keiser, Junius	66 C.A.
Price, James R.	61 C.A.
Woodfin, A. B.	72 C.A.
Wade, Wm H.	67 C.A.
Nimms, Samuel B.	63 C.A.
Currier, R. H.	65 C.A.
Harvey, John	77 C.A.
Stump, John H.	72 C.A.
Brooks, Charles	70 C.A.
Booker, J. D.	76 C.A.
Cary, P. M.	68 C.A.
Young, W. P.	73 C.A.
Bocock, John T.	65 C.A.
McCray, J. A.	81 C.A.
Cox, Thomas H.	71 C.A.
Harner, John M.	67 C.A.
Moses, Samuel	70 C.A.
Benton, Richard	71 C.A.
Robison, Joshua	83 C.A.
Loving, John W.	72 C.A.
Baber, Wm S.	77 C.A.
Balsley, John D.	74 C.A.
Carter, Wm J.	74 C.A.
Hall, Houston	73 C.A.
Sproul, Richard	71 C.A.
Bear, Henry C.	72 C.A.
Zirkel, Moses S.	76 C.A.
Diddle, Franklin	76 U.A.
Deadrick, Koenig	74 C.A.
Woodman, John M.	76 U.A.
Balsley, Cyrus F.	71 C.A.
Brownlee, John A.	77 C.A.
Bridge, James	65 C.A.
Fretwell, Wm A.	71 C.A.

Deadrick, James M.	72 C.A.	Mitchell, Thomas	65 C.A.
Brown, James E.	66 C.A.	Meredith, Wm L.	67 U.A.
Miller, John D.	64 C.A.	(Commissioner, U.S., b. England)	
McCune, Alexander G.	76 C.A.	Thornton, Jacob T.	69 C.A.
Freed, Wm A.	69 C.A.	Whitesell, John W.	72 C.A.
Shipley, Perry M.	79 C.A.	Hensley, George E.	63 C.A.
Bell, Frank M.	66 C.A.	Sheets, George	75 C.A.
Burkholder, Preston T.	79 C.A.	Jackson, Silas (Black)	60 C.A.
Fielding, Eppa	75 C.A.	Hullihan, Walter Q.	69 C.A.
Moons, Edwin R.	64 C.A.	Bradley, Marc N.	79 C.A.
McCutchan, James R.	69 C.A.	Zirkle, Casper K.	70 C.A.
Parrish, Andrew J.	67 C.A.	Airy, Isaac	82 C.A.
Hildebrand, Michael C.	62 C.A.	Gregory, Charles E. Sr.	67 C.A.
Karnes, George W. C.	67 C.A.	Payne, Albert W.	72 C.A.
Curry, Porterfield	63 C.A.	Smith, Jace N.	68 C.A.
Brand, Wm F.	79 C.A.	McFarland, James N.	68 C.A.
Showmore, James	70 C.A.	(Treas, Augusta Co)	
Pannell, Adam	62 C.A.	Pilson, Samuel F.	71 C.A.
Tinsley, Wm H.	67 C.A.	Fauver, John A.	69 C.A.
McComb, Wm R.	71 C.A.	Drumheller, Wm P.	69 C.A.
Weaver, John	76 C.A.	Furr, James H.	67 C.A.
Cash, Daniel S.	72 C.A.	Harris, J. Rice	67 C.A.
Hall, Wm L.	68 C.A.	Brooke, Francis T.	63 C.A.
Brown, James P.	63 C.A.	Stoneburner, Charles D.	69 C.A.
McComb, Moses H.	76 C.A.	Brooke, John F.	71 C.A.
Coiner, Cyrus B.	68 C.A.	Fauver, William J.	74 C.A.
Paul, John W.	61 C.A.	Pace, Theodore A.	67 C.A.
Massie, Jack	80 C.A.	Hupman, John A.	69 C.A.
Moffett, Robert W.	68 C.A.	(Deputy Sheriff)	
McComb, Moses A.	73 C.A.	Budby, James W.	65 U.A.
Bridge, Alexander	75 C.A.	Marr, Wm T.	71 C.A.
Mitchell, George	67 C.A.	Thornton, Preston A.	67 U.A.
Critzer, James A.	75 C.A.	Gregory, James W.	65 C.A.
Durham, Lewis G.	66 C.A.	Schmucker, George E.	69 C.A.
Grove, Frank S.	67 C.A.	Hite, Samuel P.	68 C.A.
Kearney, James H.	75 C.A.	Hite, Henry C.	62 C.A.
Rodgers, Stephen T.	69 C.A.	Van Pelt, James H.	87 C.A.
Snead, Wm. E.	72 C.A.	Miller, Christfor	75 C.A.
Whiting, Winston (Mulato)	60 C.A.	Fulcher, Edward A.	69 C.A.
Coop, William	68 U.A.	Roby, Leonard B.	63 C.A.
		Garber, John M.	67 C.A.
		Coffelt, John B.	65 C.A.
<i>City of Staunton 1910:</i>		Andrew, Nelson	68 C.A.
Tucker, Samuel E.	71 C.A.	Holbert, Wm T.	67 C.A.
Parrish, John F.	71 C.A.	Wiseman, Samuel B.	72 C.A.
Argenbright, Newton	62 Yes	Anthony, Peter	60 C.A.
(Clerk, City Court)		Kidd, John W. (blind)	64 C.A.
Fiedler, Adolph	77 C.A.	Loving, Octavis C.	69 C.A.
Lyons, Enos	67 C.A.	Walker, Dr. Geo. S.	73 C.A.
Hutcheson, James A.	65 C.A.		

Gurilner, Jno B. (or Guntner)	66 U.A.	Sherman, Geo E.	80 C.A.
McIlhany, Hugh H.	69 C.A.	Edmondson, Edwin G.	69 C.A.
Creigh, Cyrus	63 C.A.	Templeton, James A.	81 C.A.
Lambert, Chas P.	64 C.A.	Blackley, James H.	74 C.A.
Pancake, Jno S.	63 C.A.	Childs, George G.	72 C.A.
Wayman, Jos. T.	63 C.A.	Bowling, Andrew	63 C.A.
Gorlick, James	69 C.A.	Walker, Henry A.	63 C.A.
Turk, Rudolph S.	61 C.A.	Stribling, Frank T.	64 C.A.
Craig, James S.	62 C.A.	Kinney, Archibald	72 C.A.
Hutchinson, Geo A. (Jailor)	63 C.A.	Brown, Thomas J. (black)	65 U.A.
Burruss, Wilson, Sr.	69 C.A.	Kyle, Nelson (black)	63 U.A.
Barr, Robert B.	59 C.A.	Murray, Hugh (black)	65 U.A.
Wingfield, Charles H. (a patient West State Hosp)	77 C.A.	Grimes, Walter (black)	62 U.A.
Waller, William D. (patient WSH)	68 C.A.	Gibson, John W.	68 C.A.
Peale, Edward A. (patient WSH)	78 C.A.	Smith, J. Booker	66 C.A.
Gardner, Robert W. (patient WSH)	77 C.A.	Rohr, James W.	64 C.A.
Russell, Robert H. (patient WSH)	72 C.A.	Hensell, Edward L.	65 C.A.
Johnson, Jerry M.	68 C.A.	Connell, Jno H.	76 C.A.
Reese, Beverley P.	81 C.A.	Fauver, Joseph M.	73 C.A.
Alexander, George	83 C.A.	Ogg, Elisha T.	70 C.A.
Bumgardner, James Jr	75 C.A.	Shott, Ephram W.	79 C.A.
Trotter, James H.	65 C.A.	Hogsett, Henry S.	73 C.A.
Wholy, William	72 C.A.	Blackburn, James W.	65 C.A.
Voorhees, Jacob F.	70 C.A.	Hoover, Henry	63 C.A.
Fuller, Jeremiah	76 C.A.	Robinson, Wm T.	64 C.A.
Walter, Frederick	70 C.A.	Hamilton, Robert A.	69 C.A.
Timberlake, Rufus M.	74 C.A.	McGuinity, Robt A.	64 C.A.
Bradford, Vance	57 C.A.	Spitler, J. Wellington	62 C.A.
Armatrout, Charles	77 C.A.	Potter, James J.	69 C.A.
Leftwick, R. Thomas	64 C.A.	Parker, John W. B.	73 C.A.
Waddell, Joseph Addison	87 C.A.	Henkel, S. Homer	65 C.A.
Hver, Henry	83 C.A.	Harrison, George M.	63 C.A.
Prise, John W.	78 C.A.	Harrison, Carter H.	64 C.A.
Haines, Charles E.	67 C.A.	Forbish, John W.	61 C.A.
Collins, Wm B.	62 C.A.	Minor, Berkeley	67 C.A.
Pancake, John S.	65 C.A.	O'Connell, John B.	63 C.A.
Guy, Robert M.	81 C.A.	Long, James M.	65 C.A.
Conrad, Charles D.	66 C.A.	Herring, Curtis O.	63 C.A.
Wilson, Pete E.	70 C.A.	Timberlake, Stephen D.	64 C.A.
Armstrong, Wm D.	68 C.A.	Scott, Wm N.	61 C.A.
Kirby, Joseph G. S.	68 C.A.	Baker, Christian S.	71 C.A.
Fuller, Thomas E.	61 C.A.	Kerr, Wesley S.	64 C.A.
Kable, Wm H.	72 C.A.	Black, Calvin L.	63 C.A.
		Reynolds, George W.	63 C.A.
		Farley, Andy J.	84 C.A.
		Blakemore, Benj A.	64 C.A.
		Ranson, Thomas D.	66 C.A.
		Allen, S. Brown	65 C.A.

## IN MEMORIAM

Mr. J. Waller Callison\*  
Mr. James L. Cornell  
Mrs. Charles L. Furr  
Mr. Harold K. Henkel  
Miss Helena Craig Koiner\*

\*Charter Member

## NEW MEMBERS

(since November 1984)

Mrs. Carrie D. Basch, Harrison, Arkansas  
Anna L. Bird, Staunton, Virginia  
Mrs. John J. Bowman, Staunton, Virginia  
Karen Church, Waynesboro, Virginia  
Mr. and Mrs. Felix E. Edmunds, Waynesboro, Virginia  
Mrs. Anna Lessley Grim, Sarasota, Florida  
Mrs. Bert Harter, Key West, Florida  
Mrs. T. E. Hogsett, Hillsboro, Ohio  
Mrs. Dale Hutsell, Louisville, Kentucky  
Mrs. Frances R. Johnson, Dayton, Ohio  
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Knicely, Dayton, Virginia  
Dr. Denis Macneice, Tyrone, Northern Ireland  
Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Manns, Odessa, Texas  
Mr. Cassius C. Martin, Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Mr. and Mrs. Gary R. Meeds, Alexandria, Virginia  
Mr. Mark W. Perry, North Garden, Virginia  
Mr. Charles Salembrier, Waynesboro, Virginia  
Mr. Brian Trainor, Belfast, Northern Ireland  
Mrs. Charles E. Warren, Stow, Ohio  
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Webster, Waynesboro, Virginia  
Mr. and Mrs. James E. Williams III, Greenville, Virginia  
Mrs. Virginia K. Womacks, Springfield, Ohio  
Mr. Eugene Norris Wooddell, Waukegan, Illinois  
Mrs. Stephens R. Yount, Waynesboro, Virginia

## Presidents of the Augusta County Historical Society

\*Dr. Richard P. Bell, 1964-1966  
\*Harry Lee Nash, Jr., 1966-1967  
\*Dr. Marshall M. Brice, 1967-1968  
\*Dr. James Sprunt, 1968-1970  
\*Richard M. Hamrick, Jr., 1970-1972  
†Joseph B. Yount III, 1972-1974  
\*Mrs. William Bushman, 1974-1976  
\*John M. Dunlap, Jr., 1976-1977  
Miss Mary Kathryn Blackwell, 1977-1979  
Mrs. Harry D. Hevener, 1979-1981  
\*John M. McChesney, Jr., 1981-1983  
Mrs. John E. True, 1983-1985

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\*Charter Member of Society

†Honorary Charter Member